

BIO 1408 (4:3:3)

General Biology for Non-Science Majors I

Department of Biology

Division of Arts and Sciences

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

Levelland Campus

Dr. Eric Niederhauser

Fall 2017

Course Information
Biology I for Non-Science Majors (BIOL 1408)
Fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Eric Niederhauser

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Office Hours: Monday: 9:00 – 10:00, 1:00 – 2:00

Tuesday: 9:30 – 11:30, 2:30 – 3:30

Wednesday: 8:30 – 10:00

Friday: 8:30 – 10:00

Course Description: This general biology course is devoted to exploring the properties, structures and functions shared by all organisms with an emphasis on humans. These properties involve: cells, chemistry, energy, genetics, evolution, and interactions. We will also learn about science and the process of scientific discovery.

Course Implementation:

PREREQUISITE: None. CREDIT: Four semester hours

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Campbell, *Essential Biology with Physiology*, 5th Ed. by Simon, Dickey, Hogan and Reece.

REQUIRED LAB MANUAL: Available only from the bookstore. You must bring it to lab.

Blackboard: Current grades, course information, lectures, links etc. will be available on Blackboard, accessed through <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>. You are responsible for checking Blackboard regularly.

Email: I may send emails to your SPC email address periodically throughout the semester. You are responsible for any information that is sent to your SPC email by me or the college, so please check it regularly.

Grading

EXAMS: There will be five exams given during the semester covering both lecture and lab. One exam will be online. The exams will be announced in advance and primarily cover lecture material but may include information from lab. The exams will be primarily multiple choice but may include fill-in-the blank, short answer or essay questions. The final exam will be comprehensive.

Missed exams: If you know in advance that you will be absent on an exam date, notify me ahead of time, it MAY be possible to take the exam at an alternate time. If you unexpectedly need to miss an exam and do not contact me within 24 hours, I will not consider a makeup exam. Failure to notify the instructor will result in a zero for the exam.

IN-CLASS QUIZZES: There will be quizzes at the beginning of most classes. If you are late for class you will receive a zero for that day's quiz. There will be no in-class quiz makeups but at least three of the lowest in-class quiz grades will be dropped. Quizzes will use a remote clicker system.

ASSIGNMENTS: Graded assignments may be assigned. I will not accept them late.

LAB GRADES: Based on assignments and quizzes in the lab.

GRADING SUMMARY

Grade Type	Percentage of Grade
Exams	60 %
In-Class Quizzes/Assignments	20 %
Lab Grades	20 %

Grading scale: Final semester average 90-100 = A; 80-89 =B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; <60 = F.

Last Day to Drop the Course: Nov 16, 2016

Resources for help: My goal is your success. If you have any questions or concerns, ASK or TELL ME - Please! Anything that affects your performance as a student is important to me and South Plains College. We will do everything we can to support you and help you succeed.

Specific places to seek help depend on the factors that are affecting your performance:

ACADEMIC: Instructor, Tutors, Learning Center - 3rd floor library building.

PERSONAL: Health & Wellness Center (8 free counseling appointments per year).

HEALTH: Student Health Clinic (free for students with 6 or more credit hours).

Policies, Procedures and Rules

This course will be conducted according to the policies and procedures of the South Plains College Student Handbook and General Catalog.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Students are responsible for all information discussed during absences from class - regardless of the reason. When unavoidable situations such as illness, weather, an official college trip, or a death in the family causes one absence it is not necessary to let the instructor know. If more than one absence is expected, it is polite to let me know.

When absences become excessive and, in the opinion of the instructor, minimum course objectives cannot be met, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Any student with 6 absences or tardies will be withdrawn from the class – with the grade of “F.” In addition, an instructor is required to initiate a student's administrative withdrawal when the student has missed every class during a fourteen consecutive calendar-day period (4 class meetings) excluding holidays – with the grade of “F.” To avoid a failing grade meet with the instructor should problems arise.

Once a week, class meetings consists of lecture period AND a lab period; consequently, being absent from either class or lab will count as an absence for the day and any work missed will receive a grade of zero. Most labs cannot be made up.

If something extraordinary arises during the semester, I will certainly take this into consideration and some exception to the above attendance policy may be made.

A student who does not attend a class by the 12th day of classes will automatically be deleted from the class rolls.

Tardy Policy: Arriving to class late is disruptive. If you are late, please come in quickly and quietly take your seat. You will not be allowed to take the in-class quiz. A student who is consistently tardy will be dropped from the class. If you are tardy please see the instructor after class to ensure you were noted as present. See me if there is a problem or if you know you will be late.

Classroom Conduct: To create an effective learning environment, respect must be shown to your fellow students and to the instructor. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Disruptive and disrespectful behavior includes:

- Cell phone use. **Cell Phone use is not permitted.** Cell phones should be out of sight in lecture and lab. Do not text during class or lab or leave class or lab to answer phone calls.
- Use of other electronic devices including laptops. Not only is this distracting, but research shows that taking notes by hand is more effective. I reserve the right to allow laptop use on an individual basis.
- Leaving class during lecture. **If you will need to leave early let me know.**
- Sleeping in class or lab.
- Eating in lab. Discrete food consumption in lecture is tolerated.
- Failure to follow general instructions.
- Talking out of turn, cursing, inappropriate gestures etc.

You will receive a zero for that day's quiz for disruptive behavior and may be asked to leave the classroom. If the poor behavior is deemed excessive the student may be withdrawn from the course.

Academic Integrity: The attempt of any student to cheat or present as her/his own any work, which she/he has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Examples of cheating and dishonesty include (but are not limited to): plagiarism, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes or texts during an examination or quiz, obtaining information during an exam from the exam paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office.

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Privacy: The federal law guaranteeing student privacy is the policy of this professor as well as that of SPC. This means that I will not discuss your grade with anyone other than you. I will NOT discuss your grade with your parents, guardians, friends, etc.

Lab Safety: Each student will be informed/trained on the “Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) for Laboratories at South Plains College” documentation and training during the first week of the semester. Each student will be required to acknowledge receipt of this information and be required to follow all procedures outlined by the instructor and/or staff of South Plains College.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS): These data sheets detail any potential hazards which may be incurred while utilizing various chemicals in the laboratory. The MSDS notebook is located in room 146 of the science building. All students are encouraged to read about the chemicals used in the lab in the MSDS notebook. Please ask the instructor if you need assistance.

Non-Discrimination Statement: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Biology 1408
General Lecture Outline, Book Chapters, Tentative Exam Dates

Topic	Campbell Essential Biology Reading	Unit
Introduction	Chapter 1	The General Properties and Building Blocks (Atoms, Molecules and Cells) of Life
Chemistry for Biology	Chapter 2	
Molecules of Life	Chapter 3	
A Tour of The Cell	Chapter 4	
Exam 1: Sep 25/26		
Cell Division (Mitosis)	Chapter 8 (pages 120-129)	The Working Cell
The Working Cell	Chapter 5	
Cellular Respiration	Chapter 6	Cell Energy
Photosynthesis	Chapter 7	
Exam 2: Oct 17/17		
Meiosis	Chapter 8 (pages 130-143)	Genetics
Patterns of Inheritance	Chapter 9	
Online Exam 3: Open Oct 25 – Due Friday Nov 3)		
Structure and Function of DNA	Chapter 10	DNA
Cloning/Gene Mutation/Cancer	Chapter 11	
DNA Technology	Chapter 12	
Exam 4: Nov 20/21		
How Populations Evolve	Chapter 13	Evolution
How Biological Diversity Evolves	Chapter 14	
Intro to Ecology and the Biosphere	Chapter 18	Ecology
Population Ecology	Chapter 19	
Communities and Ecosystems	Chapter 20	
Exam 5: Finals Week		

Laboratory topics generally coincide with lecture topics.