

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 2021 ONLINE

**Biology I for Non - Science Majors (BIOL 1408)**  
**FALL 2021 ONLINE**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Eric Niederhauser

OFFICE PHONE: 806 716-2321

EMAIL: [eniederhauser@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:eniederhauser@southplainscollege.edu).

- Please include “**1408 Online**” in the subject. I teach a few courses and the answer to your question will likely depend on what course you are in.
- I generally try to respond promptly to emails. Evening or Saturday response times may be delayed. Emails received on Sundays will be answered on Monday.

OFFICE HOURS:

- Monday: 9:30 – Noon and 2:30 - 3:30
- Tuesday: 9:30 – Noon
- Friday: 9:00 – 11:00

These can be in person or online using Blackboard Collaborate. If you would like to schedule a time for me to enter the Collaborate course room at any time, send me an email. If I am in my office I can easily login.

**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. PREREQUISITE: None. CREDIT: Four semester hours

**Course Implementation**

BLACKBOARD: Lectures, current grades, links to labs etc. will be available. Written assignments will also be uploaded to Blackboard. Online office visits will be conducted in Blackboard Collaborate.

LECTURES: About 1-hour and 15 minutes of prerecorded lectures will be posted to Blackboard at 8:00 am each Monday and Wednesday (see schedule below).

LABORATORY: You are **required** to complete weekly online lab-simulation sets accessed through McGraw-Hill Connect in Blackboard. The simulations are automatically scored. Each simulation set is expected to take about 2 hours (some may take a bit more, some much less). The weekly simulations are due Sunday 11:30 pm.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Campbell, *Essential Biology with Physiology*, 6<sup>th</sup> Ed. by Simon, et al. Others are acceptable. Links to the OpenStax biology text will be provided.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:

- Computer or laptop WITH microphone and camera.
- Printer to print assignments.
- Camera or scanner to take pictures of completed written assignments.
- Google Chrome with Proctorio browser extension installed.

Note: As a member of the SPC community, you have free access to Office 365. Office 365 provides access to Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, and 1TB of free online storage with Microsoft OneDrive. To access Office 365, go to <https://www.office.com> and sign in with the following format: SPCusername@southplainscollege.edu and your MySPC password.

## Grading

**EXAMS:** There will be five timed exams given during the course which will cover both lecture and lab. Expect multiple choice, true or false, fill-in-the blank, short answer and essay questions. The 5<sup>th</sup> and final exam will be comprehensive.

Exams will be available to take beginning at 8:00 am on the scheduled Friday. You will have until 11:30 pm Sunday to take them. **BE AWARE:** Emails about exam problems sent on Sunday will likely NOT be seen until after the exam is due. Your identity will be verified using the Proctorio Chrome browser Extension. Specific instructions and procedures will be provided.

**Do not miss exams.** If you will not be able to take an exam you must contact me BEFORE the exam is posted. If you miss an exam, I will not consider a makeup exam and you will receive a zero.

**QUIZZES** will be posted in the Quiz and Exams Folder a few hours after each lecture addressing the day's lecture topic. There will be up to 10 questions. Your identity will be verified using the Proctorio Chrome browser Extension. Specific instructions and procedures will be provided before the first quiz. Both quizzes for the week will be available to take until Sunday 11:30 pm. After that, any blank quiz grades will be changed to zero. There are no makeup quizzes. The two lowest quiz grades will be dropped.

### Exam and Quiz Notes:

You may use your notes, book or non-live online resources during the exams or quizzes, therefore:

- They are NOT generously timed. You will have 45 – 50 seconds per question.  
You can take as much time as you want on each question but taking more time on one question will decrease the time you have available for the others. If you are not VERY familiar with the material, you will run out of time.
- You will be presented one question at a time with no opportunity to backtrack.
- Talking, texting, chatting etc. to another person (either in-person or online) during a quiz or exam is considered cheating and will result in a zero.
- Proctorio will be used. Proctorio makes it difficult to use the internet during exams. See separate instruction page.

**LAB GRADES:** Credit is given for simulation completion. Each simulation set also has a “homework” assignment consisting of about 25 multiple-choice questions. These are scored automatically. Understanding of lab concepts may also be assessed in the exams and quizzes. There are a few written lab assignments which will also be uploaded and graded.

### GRADING SUMMARY

Grade Type	Percentage of Grade
Exams	70 %
Lab Simulations/Assignments	20 %
Quizzes	10 %

*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:* Dec 2, 2021

### 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** is based on your weekly quizzes and lab completion. If you fail to take any of the weekly quizzes for two weeks, you will be counted absent for both weeks and will be dropped from the class.

As this is a “lab science” course, failure to complete two lab sets will result in being dropped from the course. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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

**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.

**Student Code of Conduct Policy:** Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

**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.

**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](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.

### General Weekly Schedule:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 am	Lecture and Lab Sim Set		Lecture Posted		
9	Posted Office Hours	Office Hours			Office Hours
10					
11					
12 pm	Quiz Posted		Quiz Posted		
1					
2	Office Hours				
3					Quizzes and Lab Simulations Due <b>SUNDAY</b> 11:30 pm
4					
5					

#### Final Thoughts:

- This is NOT a self-paced course. Although there is flexibility as to when you watch lectures, take quizzes, and complete the labs. Labs and quizzes must be completed each week and the exams dates are set.
- You must study, understand, and memorize just as you would with a traditional course.
- I STRONGLY suggest **taking notes** as you listen to the lectures and then **rewriting them** as you **read a text etc.**
- My goal is your success. If you have any questions or concerns, ASK ME! Please! Anything that affects your performance as a student is important to me.

This course is in the **SPC TexBook** program. The fee for McGraw Hill Connect Lab simulations was included in your tuition for the course. The statement below discusses the option to opt out. This does not apply to you - for this course you cannot opt out. For other courses, where the TexBook fee is used to provide a required textbook, some students might already have the textbook.

- **What is TexBook?** The required textbook/digital content for this course is available to you in Blackboard from the first day of class. The fee for the textbook/digital content is the lowest price available from the publisher and bookstore and is included in your tuition/fee payment.
- **How do I access my TexBook?** Your course material is in your Blackboard course from the first day of class. Access to your course material is provided either by RedShelf or other links inside your Blackboard course. RedShelf (and many publisher's) ebook features include the ability to hear the text read aloud, highlight, take notes, create flash cards, see word definitions, build study guides, print select pages, and download up to 20% of the book for offline access.
- **Help with TexBook** issues and support: check with your professor and/or contact <https://solve.redshelf.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>
- **Opting out of TexBook:** Participating in TexBook is not mandatory, and you can choose to opt-out.

However; by opting-out you will lose access to the course [textbook/digital content] and competitive pricing, and you will need to purchase the required course material on your own. If you drop the class or opt-out before the opt-out deadline, the TexBook charge will be automatically refunded to your SPC account. The opt-out deadline for Fall and Spring is the twelfth class day. The opt-out deadline for shorter terms varies between the second and third class day.

\*Please consult with your professor before deciding to opt-out\*

If you still feel that you should purchase the course textbook/materials on your own, send an opt-out email to: [tfewell4texasbookcompany@gmail.com](mailto:tfewell4texasbookcompany@gmail.com). Include your first name, last name, student ID number, and the course you are opting out of. Once you have been opted-out, you will receive a confirmation email. If you need assistance with the process, contact the SPC Bookstore: Email: [tfewell@texasbook.com](mailto:tfewell@texasbook.com) / Phone: 806-716-2399 Email: [agamble@texasbook.com](mailto:agamble@texasbook.com) / Phone: 806-716-4610

**Niederhauser IN-PERSON General Weekly Schedule**  
**This is FYI only - so you know when I am not available.**

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 am	1408 001 Lecture	1406 004 Lecture	1408 001 Lecture	1406 004 Lecture	
9	S80 Office Hours	S83 Office Hours	S80 1408 001 LAB	S83 1406 004 LAB	Office Hours
10			S189	S197	
11					
12 pm					
1	1408 002 Lecture		1408 002 Lecture		
2	S80 Office Hours		S80 1408 002 Lab		
3			S189		
4					
5					