

**BIOL 1107 D, E, F - PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY 1 - FALL 2011  
SYLLABUS & COURSE POLICIES**

**Lecture: Bailey Science Center (BSC) 1023 (M, W, F, 10:00-10:50 a.m.)**

**Laboratory: All laboratory sections meet in BSC 1083**

**Section D meets Thurs. 9:30 - 12:20**

**Section E meets Thurs. 1:00 – 3:50**

**Section F meets Friday 11:30- 2:20**

**Instructor: Dr. Mark Blackmore**

**Office: Biology Annex, Room 1**

**Office Hours: M, W 12:00-12:45 or by appointment**

**Contact information**

**Telephone: (229) 259-5114**

**email: mblackmo@valdosta.edu**

**Texts:** *Life: The science of Biology* 9<sup>th</sup> ed. by Sadava et al.; *Methods and Investigations in Basic Biology* 5<sup>th</sup> ed. by Goddard.

***BIOL 1107 Course Description.*** An introduction to the principles of biology for science majors, with an emphasis on the cellular nature of life. Concepts covered include the origin and early evolution of cellular life; cell structure, function, metabolism, and reproduction; cell signaling; and gene regulation in bacteria and eukaryotes.

**There are no prerequisites for this course. BIOL 1100 is a co-requisite for Biology majors.**

**Learning Goal**

Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.

**Course scope and objectives:** This course is a prerequisite for all other courses required in the biology major. The primary objective is to provide a foundation for further studies in biology. It is also hoped that you will gain an understanding of how biologists and other scientists approach problems.

**Course Objectives and Outcomes** (refer to General (GEO) & Biology (BEO) Educational Outcomes listed below for more information)

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- 1) answer questions that demonstrate an understanding of fundamental concepts of biology, including the scientific method and experimental design; cellular structure, function, metabolism, and reproduction; the nature of the gene and its action; and the mechanisms of evolution (GEO 5; BEO 1-4)
- 2) perform a variety of standard lab techniques used in biological research (GEO 5)
- 3) use critical thinking skills and written communication skills to present the results and conclusions of data collected in the lab in standard scientific writing format (GEO 4 & 7; BEO 1)

***Valdosta State University General Educational Outcomes (GEO)***

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the society of the United States and its ideals.
2. Students will demonstrate cross-cultural perspectives and knowledge of other societies.
3. Students will use computer and information technology when appropriate.
4. Students will express themselves clearly, logically and precisely in writing and in speaking, and they will demonstrate competence in reading and listening.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of scientific and mathematical principles and proficiency in laboratory practices.
6. Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultural heritages in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences.

7. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, to evaluate, and to make inferences from oral, written and visual materials.
8. Students will demonstrate knowledge of principles of ethics and their employment in the analysis and resolution of moral problems.

***Department of Biology Educational Outcomes (BEO)***

1. Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions in both written and oral format used in peer-reviewed journals and at scientific meetings.
2. Describe the evolutionary process responsible for biological diversity, explain the phylogenetic relationships among the other taxa of life, and provide illustrative examples.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the cellular basis of life.
4. Relate the structure and function of DNA/RNA to the development of form and function of the organism and to heredity
5. Interpret ecological data pertaining to the behavior of the individual organism in its natural environment; to the structure and function of populations, communities, and ecosystems; and to human impacts on these systems and the environment.

**Course requirements & grading policy:** Students are expected to attend all scheduled lectures and laboratory sessions. Attendance at lectures will be recorded intermittently after proof rolls have been submitted to the Registrar. Bonus points for attendance (maximum 15) may be applied to the final course grade. Students are responsible for all material presented in class and must attend when tests are given. The Instructor is not obligated to provide lecture notes or handouts to absentee students or to offer make-up examinations. Students with valid, documented excuses (*eg.* a death in the immediate family) may receive special consideration but must contact the instructor immediately. Examinations will cover all material presented in class, any handouts and assigned reading (including material in the textbook not specifically covered in class). Lecture topics will be covered in four one-hour examinations and a comprehensive final examination. I will drop the lowest of the lecture exams and use the scores of the remaining three plus the final exam and laboratory scores to determine the final course grade. Lecture exams may consist of any combination of objective (fill-in, true-false, multiple choice) and subjective (essay, diagrams etc.) questions about material presented in class or in the assigned reading. The final exam will be entirely multiple choice.

**The final exam will be given Friday, December 9 at 8:00 a.m. in BSC 1023\***

\* (Subject to change if warranted by construction activities)

Points for the course will be allocated as follows:

4 lecture exams (100 points each, lowest one dropped) = 300 points

Mandatory comprehensive final exam = 100 points

Laboratory grade (computed as % possible points) = 100 points

The following scale will be used to assign final grades:

POINTS EARNED	GRADE
450-500	A
400-449	B
350-399	C
300-349	D
< 300	F

**Important Notes:** For Biology majors, a grade of C or higher is required in this course before additional biology courses can be attempted. Midterm, (Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>) is the last day for withdrawing without penalty. Students should receive sufficient feedback to assess their standing in the course at any time. In-progress grades will be calculated based on the exams taken (80%) plus the lab grade (20%) prior to September 28.

**Special needs:** Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in the Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY). Please discuss any such needs with me at the

beginning of the semester.

**Tentative\* Lecture Schedule – Fall Semester 2011**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Assigned Reading</b>
1	Aug 15 – 10	Introduction to Biology; Chemistry of Life	Ch 1, 2
2	Aug 22 – 26	Chemistry of Life; Protein, Carbohydrates, Lipids	Ch 2, 3
3	Aug 29 – Sept 2	Nucleic Acids; Cells	Ch 4, 5
4	Sept 5 – 9	No class Monday (Labor Day); <b>Exam 1 Sept 7 (Ch 1-4); Cells</b>	Ch 5
5	Sept 12 – 16	Cells; Cell Membranes	Ch 5, 6
6	Sept 19 – 23	Cell Cycle & Cell Division in part (Ch 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.6 & 11. 7)	Ch 11 pt
7	Sept 26 – 30	Cell Signaling & Communication; <b>Exam 2 Sept 30 (Ch 5-7; 11 pt)</b>	Ch 7
8	Oct 3 – 7	Energy, Enzymes & Metabolism	Ch 8
9	Oct 10- 14	Pathways that Harvest Chemical Energy	Ch 9
10	Oct 17 – 21	Photosynthesis <b>Exam 3 Oct 21 (Ch 7 – 9; 11.1-11.3)</b>	Ch 10
11	Oct 24 – 28	No class Monday (Fall Break); Meiosis (Ch. 11.4, 11.5)	Ch 11 pt
12	Oct 31 – Nov 4	Inheritance, Genes & Chromosomes; DNA & Heredity	Ch12,13
13	Nov 7 – 11	From DNA to Protein: Gene Expression	Ch 14
14	Nov 14 – 18	<b>Exam 4 Nov 16 (Ch TBA);</b> Gene Mutation & Molecular Medicine	Ch 15
15	Nov 21	Gene Mutation & Molecular Medicine; Thanksgiving Holiday	Ch 16
16	Nov 28 – Dec 2	Genomes; Recombinant DNA & Biotechnology	Ch17,18
17	Dec 5 – 9	Last class Dec 5; Final Exam Friday Dec. 9 8:00am	

**\*This schedule is tentative. Pacing and test dates may be changed as necessary, but no exam will be given prior to the date indicated here. Attendance in class is encouraged to stay abreast of any changes.**

**Academic Integrity & Conduct:** I follow the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures of the University [www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml](http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml) and the Department of Biology’s Policy on Plagiarism [www.valdosta.edu/biology/documents/biologyplagiarism.doc](http://www.valdosta.edu/biology/documents/biologyplagiarism.doc). I expect my students to read and understand the information provided on those web sites - there will be questions on exams regarding the information provided there. “Academic Integrity/ Honesty” means performing all academic work without plagiarism, cheating, lying, tampering, stealing, receiving unauthorized or illegitimate assistance from any other person, or using any source of information that is not common knowledge. All electronic devices including cell phones must be turned off and kept out of sight during examinations.

Student conduct should follow guidelines specified in the VSU Student Handbook. It is expected that students will maintain the highest ethical standards, honesty and courtesy at all times. To avoid disruptions, all cellular telephones and pagers should be turned off for the duration of class. Students failing to abide by this policy may face disciplinary action. Evidence of dishonesty in the completion of assignments or during tests will result in the forfeiture of the points allocated for that task. Any student caught cheating may be reported to the University Administration. A second offense will be grounds for dismissal with a failing grade.

## FALL 2011- Tentative Laboratory Schedule, BIOL 1107 D, E, F

### LABORATORY EXERCISES:

Lab	Days:	Topic:	Due Dates
1	August 18-19	Laboratory Introduction Ex. 1 Introduction to the Use of the Scientific Method	
2	August 25-26	Ex. 2 Basics of the Light Microscope.	
3	September 1-2	Ex. 3 Observation of Living Cells with Light Microscopy	
4	September 8-9	Ex. 4 Independent Group Microscope Project: Proposal	
5	September 15-16	Ex. 4 Independent Group Microscopy Project: Data collection lab ( <i>Lab assignment 1</i> )	Assignment 1 due next Monday by 3:00 pm
6	September 22-23	Ex. 5 Cellular Water Relations	
7	September 29-30	Ex. 6 Protein extraction & quantification	
8	October 6-7	Ex. 7 Enzymology: $\alpha$ -amylase activity	
9	October 13-14	Ex. 8 Enzymology: Investigation of the effects of temperature on enzyme activity ( <i>Lab assignment 2</i> )	Assignment 2 due next Monday by 3:00 pm
--	October 20-21	Ex. 9 Photosynthesis	
10	October 27-28	<b>Fall Break (Mon &amp; Tue) – no labs this week</b>	
11	November 3-4	Ex. 10 Cell reproduction: Mitosis, Meiosis, & Cytokinesis	
12	November 10-11	DNA fingerprinting & Ex. 12 PCR-Based VNTR Human DNA Typing	
13	November 17-18	Ex. 13 Genetically Modified Organisms part 1	
--	November 24-25	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	
14	December 1-2	Ex. 13 GMO part 2	<i>Notebooks graded in lab</i>