

BIOL 1100
Credit Hours 1-0-1

Freshman Seminar
Department of Biology

Instructor: Dr. Timothy J. Fort
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Office Hours: Tuesday 3.00pm-5.00pm or by scheduled appointment

Lecture:

Section F:	Tuesday 2.00-2.50	BC 1025
Section G:	Tuesday 3.30-4.20	BC 1025
Section H:	Thursday 2.00-2.50	BC 1025

Course Description: An introduction to college-level science and specifically the field of biological sciences. Topics covered will include strategies for success, basic descriptive statistics and data analysis, exposure to possible careers within the field, professional ethics, and resource and library use.

Pre- and/or Co- Requisites: BIOL 1100 is required as a co-requisite for all incoming freshmen biology majors before or during enrollment in BIOL 1107.

Course Objectives: Students will learn the following:

- 1) Biology major requirements, general advising, strategies for success, and related career paths from biological research to professional programs;
- 2) The basics of the scientific method and scientific writing.

These learning outcomes correspond to the biology educational outcome #1 and the VSU General Educational Outcomes 3, 5, 7 and 8.

Attendance: Attendance in this course is absolutely required. Each student is responsible for all material missed regardless of the reason for absences. Note the University policy regarding attendance: **1) Students who miss 20% of lecture time will receive an automatic failing grade for the course. 2) Students who do not regularly attend lecture, as determined by taking class role, by the proof roll date may be automatically dropped from the class. (3) Students who neither drop nor attend class by the midterm date will receive an automatic F for the course.**

Students who miss 20 % of lecture time on a given day will be counted as absent for that day.

Conduct: No disruptive behavior of any kind will be tolerated in this course. Students should restrict talking and discussion to pertinent questions related to course material and these questions should be directed toward the instructor. Entering a classroom late or early is discouraged. Any student disrupting lectures will be required to leave the classroom. Use of cellular telephones, pagers, or any similar remote communication device is prohibited during class time. If you use your cell phone or your cell phone activates during a lecture you will be asked to leave and will be counted as absent from class.

Cheating / Plagiarism: Please refer to the Student Code of Ethics in the Valdosta State University Student Handbook. Any student caught cheating will be penalized, ranging from receiving a zero for that assignment or test, to failure and expulsion from the course. Please refer to the Valdosta State University, Department of Biology Plagiarism Policy. By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW.
(<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/SafeAssignforStudents.shtml>)

Students with Documented Disabilities: 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).

Privacy Act: Due to the Buckley Amendment, or Privacy Act, an individual's personal information cannot be released to anyone but that individual. As such, grades will not be discussed over the phone, by email, or released to a friend or relative.

Biology Tutoring/SSC: The following statement was copied from the SSC Website: "The Student Success Center (SSC) at Valdosta State University is located in Langdale Residence Hall above the Tech Shop and is available to all students. The SSC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The SSC also provides free professional academic advising and on-campus job information in one location. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit the website: www.valdosta.edu/ssc."

Assessments:

Course Grade

Attendance	50 %	90 – 100 %	= A
Scientific Writing	20 %	80 – 89.9 %	= B
Career Plan	10 %	70 – 79.9 %	= C
Career Slide	10 %	60 – 69.9 %	= D
Scientific Method Quiz	10 %	< 59.9 %	= F
Total	100 %		

- Any assigned work submitted late will **NOT** be graded.
- Any assigned work submitted electronically will **NOT** be graded, unless prior permission for electronic submission is granted.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Week	Topic	Section F	Section G	Section H
1	Introduction to the Department/College/VSU	8/14	8/14	8/16
2	Student Success Center Seminar	8/21	8/21	8/23
3	Biology Exam, Assessment Plans	8/28	8/28	8/30
4	Library Tour	9/4	9/4	9/6
5	Scientific Writing	9/11	9/11	9/13
6	Scientific Writing	9/18	9/18	9/20
7	BlazeView, eCore Seminar	9/25	9/25	9/27
8	Advising, BA/BS worksheet, tracks	10/2	10/2	10/4
9	Careers in Biology/Slide Presentations	10/9	10/9	10/11
10	Careers in Biology/Slide Presentations	10/23	10/23	10/18
11	Careers in Biology/Slide Presentations	10/30	10/30	10/25
12	Discussion, 4 year and 10 year plan	11/6	11/6	11/1
13	Scientific Method and the Enterprise of Science	11/13	11/13	11/8
14	VSU Clubs, SIFE, BBB, AED	11/20	11/20	11/15
15	Directed Study, Lab Research, Study Abroad	11/27	11/27	11/29