# BIOLOGY 101 COURSE SYLLABUS

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This one-unit (3 hour) General Biology Lab is intended to be

taken concurrently with the 3-unit Principles of Biology Lecture class. It has been designed to be both a demonstration of concepts discussed in the lecture class, and as an experience of the experimental process used in science.

**LAB TEXT:**  *Laboratory Investigations*, by Michael Clark and Michael Riddle, 2012.

**GRADE EVALUATION PROCEDURE:**

**Weekly Quizzes:** These 10 point quizzes will cover the previous week’s laboratory

exercise. Questions will be fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice, true-false, graph analysis,

drawings, short answers, and calculations. Most of the questions will be open book. If you have done an excellent job on the previous week’s lab work, then you should do ok on the quiz. Some of the questions will be closed book, but I will have told you the week before exactly what you have to memorize. The quizzes will be administered at the beginning of the lab period.

**Missed Quizzes:** Each missed lab lowers your grade by 7% of the total points. I teach one lab each day M-Th. If you have an upcoming appointment, then arrange with me, during the previous week, to attend another one of my labs. If you are ill, attend one of my labs later that week. If you miss a quiz from a lab **that you attended**, you will be able to make up that quiz.

**What to Study:** You must be able to answer all questions in each exercise for the open book part of the quiz. I will tell you if you must memorize any specific detail for a quiz.

**Extra Credit:** Two of the labs during the semester are designed to offer an opportunity for extra credit (Senses and Heart). If you complete these labs, you can drop your lowest quiz score during the semester.

**GRADES:** The biology lecture and lab classes are graded separately. However, there is a correlation of topics covered in both courses, which means that lab can help lecture and vice versa. Unsatisfactory performance in the lecture class is usually related to an overload of units or work outside of school. If you are having a very difficult time in lecture, it is very important that you decide early in the semester (first month) whether you should cut back on your unit load. If you drop lecture early in the semester, then also drop the lab class. Your grade is determined by the percentage of points you earn out of the number of points possible. The grading scale is as follows:

90% = A

80% = B

70% = C

60% = D

**ATTENDANCE:** You will be dropped if you miss three (3) lab meetings.

**LAB SAFETY:** Hazardous materials will sometimes be used in the lab. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) containing information about these hazardous materials are available upon request. No eating or drinking is allowed in the lab.

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** I will create a seating chart at the second class meeting. Talk with me prior to the second class meeting if you have hearing or vision problems that I should consider, or if you have any other special needs related to classroom instruction.

**OFFICE HOURS:** ROOM 320H

Monday 12:00 – 1:30

Tuesday 2:50 – 5:45

I teach four labs during the week. You can see me during any of these labs. M 3-6, T 6-9, W 3-6, Th 3-6.

**IMPORTANT DATES:**

1. **“W” GRADE ON TRANSCRIPTS:** There is a deadline each semester for withdrawing from a course without a “W” grade officially placed in your records. Look up this date in the **Southwestern College Schedule**.
2. **A, B, C, D, F GRADES ON TRANSCRIPT:** There is a deadline date each semester beyond which you cannot drop a class without receiving an A, B, C, D, or F grade on your official college records. Look up this date in the **Southwestern College Schedule**.

* **SPECIAL NOTE ON DROPPING THIS CLASS:** If you find it necessary to drop this class you must do so officially at the Admissions Office. If you do not officially drop classes at Southwestern College, the Admissions Office will give you an “F” grade.

**BIOLOGY 101 LAB GRADE CALCULATION**

**PERCENTAGE (%) COMPUTATION:** The following general formula can be used at any

point during the semester.

Points Earned ÷ Points Possible X 100 = Percentage (%)

Example: If you earned 22 points out of a possible 30, then…

1. ÷ 30 = 0.733 X 100 = 73.3%

**GRADE SCALE:** After computing your percentage, go to the grade scale for your current

grade. In our example, 73.3% is a “C”.

**POINTS:** The following is provided for you to keep track of the points you’ve earned.

Measurement \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Microscope \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cells \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chemistry of Water \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enzymes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Senses. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(extra credit)

Photosynthesis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Respiration \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Division \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Heart \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(extra credit)

Genetics \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Microbes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mosses and Ferns \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Land Plants \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Survey of Animals \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Human Evolution \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Biology 101 Lab Schedule**

**Week Of Topic**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **January 17** | **Introduction** |
| **24** | **Measurement** |
|  |  |
| **31** | **Microscope** |
|  |  |
| **February 7** | **Cells** |
|  |  |
| **14** | **Chemistry of Water (no Saturday Lab)** |
|  |  |
| **21** | **Instructor Choice - Senses and Perception**  **(no MondayLab)** |
|  |  |
| **28** | **Enzymes** |
|  |  |
| **March 7** | **Photosynthesis** |
|  |  |
| **14** | **Respiration** |
|  |  |
| **21** | ***Easter Break*** |
|  |  |
| **28** | **Instructor Choice – The Heart**  **(no Thursday Lab)** |
| **April 4** | **Sameness and Variety** |
|  |  |
| **11** | **Genetics** |
|  |  |
| **18** | **Surrounded by Microbes** |
|  |  |
| **25** | **Mosses and Ferns** |
|  |  |
| **May 2** | **Dry Land Plants** |
|  |  |
| **9** | **Survey of Animals** |
|  |  |
| **16**  **23** | **Human Evolution**  ***Final Exams for Lab*** |