

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 2023 ONLINE

Biology I for Non - Science Majors (BIOL 1408) FALL 2023 ONLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Eric Niederhauser

OFFICE PHONE: 806 716-2321

EMAIL: 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. I don’t look at work emails on Sunday.

OFFICE HOURS: Mon: 10:00 – Noon, 2:30 - 3:30; Tue and Wed: 11:00– Noon; Thu: 1:30-2:30; Friday: 9:00 – 11:00. These can be in person or online using Blackboard Collaborate (a little like Zoom). 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: The platform for this course is here: <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>. 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 one hour and 15 minutes of prerecorded lectures will be posted to Blackboard at 8:00 am on both Mondays and Wednesdays (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 11:59 pm.

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Campbell, *Essential Biology with Physiology*, 6th Ed. by Simon, et al. Others are acceptable.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:

- Computer or laptop WITH microphone and camera.
- Reliable internet access. You will be required to meet all deadlines – no matter what happens to your internet connection. Have a backup plan.
- 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

IN-LECTURE QUESTIONS: Each lecture video has embedded questions which are automatically scored.

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 5th and final exam will be comprehensive.

Exams will be available to take beginning at 8:00 am on the scheduled Friday. 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 neglect to take exams. Because of the nature of online courses, and the length of time in which you can choose to take the exam, there are no makeup exams. You will receive a zero for missed exams.

QUIZZES: Each Friday at 8:00 am, except exam weeks, one quiz addressing the week’s lecture topics will be posted in the Weekly Folder. There will be 10-15 questions. Your identity will be verified using the Proctorio Chrome browser

extension. Specific instructions and procedures will be provided before the first quiz. Quizzes will be available to take until Sunday 11:59 pm. After that, any blank quiz grades will be changed to zero. There are no makeup quizzes.

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	60 %
Lab Grades/Assignments	15 %
In-Lecture Questions	15 %
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: Nov 30, 2023

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.

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.

Attendance is based on your weekly quizzes and lab completion. If you fail to take the weekly quizzes for two weeks, you will be counted absent for both weeks and will be dropped from the class. Because this is a lab-integrated course, failure to complete three or more lab sets will result in being dropped from the course. Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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.

Your own words must be used to answer any assessment questions.

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.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about

- **Intellectual exchange**
- **Disabilities**
- **Non-discrimination**
- **Title V Pregnancy Accommodations**
- **CARE Team**
- **Campus Concealed Carry**

please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Class Weekly Schedule:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 am	Lecture and Lab Sim Set		Lecture Posted Mon Lecture		Quiz Posted Wed Lecture
9	Posted		Questions Due		Questions Due
10					
11					
12 pm					
1					
2					
3					Quiz, Test and Lab Simulations Due
4					
5					SUNDAY 11:30 pm

Final Thoughts:

- This is NOT a self-paced course. Even though there is flexibility as to when you watch lectures, take quizzes etc., the due dates and times are set and solid. Do not send me an email with an excuse for missed deadlines. After the deadline, a zero will be given for any blanks in the gradebook. Exceptions will be given only to documented medical emergencies.
- Although the quizzes and exams are “open book.” You must study, understand, and memorize just as you would with a traditional course. **Each whole exam is timed with approximately 45 seconds allotted per question. The questions will be presented one at a time. You cannot go back to questions once answered.**
If you are not VERY familiar with the material, you will run out of time.
- ANY evidence of live communication with another person (either in-person or online) during a quiz or exam is considered cheating and will result in a zero.
- 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.

Niederhauser Biology IN-PERSON General Weekly Schedule
This is FYI - so you know when I am not available (times in blue).

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 am					
9		1408 002		1408 002	Office Hours
10	Office Hours	Lecture S80		Lecture S80	
11		Office Hours	Office Hours	1408 002 Lab S189	
12 pm					
1	1408 001 Lecture		1408 001 Lecture	Office Hours	
2	S188 Office Hours		S188 1408 001		
3			Lab S189		
4					
5					

1408 Fall 2023 Online Schedule*

Unit	Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Lab Topic/Simulations
Introduction, Building Blocks of Life	1	Mon, Aug 28	Welcome/Intro - What is Life?	Microscopes, Scientific Method
		Wed, Aug 30	Life Organized/Chemistry for Biology	
		Fri, Sep 1		
	2	Mon, Sep 4	Labor Day	Metric System, Data Analysis
		Wed, Sep 6	Chemistry Continued/Molecules of Life: Carbs	
		Fri, Sep 8		
	3	Mon, Sep 11	Molecules of Life: Lipids	Chemical Composition of Cells
		Wed, Sep 13	Molecules of Life: Protein, DNA	
		Fri, Sep 15		
	4	Mon, Sep 18	Cell Structure	Cell Structure
		Wed, Sep 20	Cell Finish and Unit Review	
		Fri, Sep 22	EXAM 1 Opens. Due Sunday Sep 24, 11:59 pm	
The Working Cell	5	Mon, Sep 25	Cell Division (Mitosis)	Mitosis, Enzymes
		Wed, Sep 27	Cell at Work - Energy and Enzymes	
		Fri, Sep 29		
	6	Mon, Oct 2	Cellular Respiration	Diffusion and Osmosis
		Wed, Oct 4	Photosynthesis	
		Fri, Oct 6		
7	Mon, Oct 9	Carbon and Energy in Ecosystems	Respiration, Photosynthesis	
	Wed, Oct 11	Unit Review		
	Fri, Oct 13	EXAM 2 Opens. Due Sunday Oct 15, 11:59 pm		
Genetics	8	Mon, Oct 17	Meiosis	Meiosis, Genetic Problems
		Wed, Oct 19	Patterns of Inheritance Mendel	
		Fri, Oct 20		
	9	Mon, Oct 23	Inheritance - Beyond Mendel	Drosophila and Plant Genetics
		Wed, Oct 25		
		Fri, Oct 27	EXAM 3 Opens. Due Sunday Oct 29, 11:59 pm	
DNA	10	Mon, Oct 30	Structure of DNA	DNA Structure, Protein Synthesis, Mutation, Karyotypes
		Wed, Nov 1	Function of DNA/Viruses/Mutation	
		Fri, Nov 3		
	11	Mon, Nov 6	How Genes are Controlled	Gene Expression
		Wed, Nov 8	Cloning/Gene Cancer	
		Fri, Nov 10		
Evolution/ Ecology	12	Mon, Nov 13	DNA Technology	DNA Technology
		Wed, Nov 15	DNA Technology Applications	
		Fri, Nov 17	EXAM 4 Opens. Due Sunday Nov 19, 11:59 pm	
	13	Mon, Nov 20	Evolution by Natural Selection	No Lab
		Wed, Nov 22	Thanksgiving Break	
		Fri, Nov 24	Thanksgiving Break	
	14	Mon, Nov 27	Evolution Evidence	Evidence of Evolution
Wed, Nov 29		Ecology Case study 1		
Fri, Dec 1				
15	Mon, Dec 4	Ecology Case study 2	TBA	
	Wed, Dec 6	Wrap up and Semester Review		
	Fri, Dec 8	Final EXAM Opens. 8 am.		
		Tue, Dec 12	Final EXAM DUE 11:59 pm	

*Topic dates are tentative. Exam dates are set.