



# College of the Mainland

**BIOL 1409.102HY**  
**Biology for Non-Majors II**  
**Spring 2021**  
**Online through Blackboard (Lecture)**  
**T 9:30-12:20, SCI 153 (Lab)**

**Instructor Information: Sheena Abernathy**

E-mail: [sabernathy@com.edu](mailto:sabernathy@com.edu) (preferred method of communication)

Office Telephone: (409)933-8330

RemindApp: Text @bio1409com to 81010 to register and be able to reach out through text and receive reminders.

**Student hours and location:**

Monday 9:00am-12:00pm (Virtual)

Tuesday 8:30am-9:30am (On campus)

Wednesday 8:30-9:30 and 12:30-1:30 (On campus)

Thursday 8:00am-9:30am (Virtual)

**Virtual Student Hours:** During my virtual student hours on Monday and Thursday I will respond to emails as quickly as they come in and I am able to during those times. I will be available to meet with you through Blackboard Collaborate or Microsoft Teams, but you will need to contact me ahead of time to schedule the meeting.

**On Campus Student Hours:** Office located in SCI 101

**Required Textbook, Materials, and Resources:**

- *Campbell Essential Biology with Physiology*, Simon, Dickey, Hogan, and Reece e-text with Modified Mastering Biology. Pearson. **Note: The e-book and Modified Mastering Biology are purchased at the time of registration and you will gain access to the online materials once you are in Blackboard when classes begin.**
- *BIOL 1407/9 Lab Manual* – purchased through the COM Bookstore. The lab manual is only available through the COM Bookstore and must be purchased prior to the first lab activity.

**Required Online Resources**

- COM Blackboard: <https://de.com.edu/webapps/login/>. COM Blackboard will be used for online activities, quizzes, and more. In addition, Blackboard will allow students to communicate with each other and the instructor. Many class resources will be available through Blackboard. Training is required to access Blackboard. If you have any questions regarding course access or training, please contact the Distance Education department (<https://edtech.com.edu>) at extension 8476.
- Mastering Biology Course – **Login will be completed through Blackboard.** You will have several assignments on Mastering Biology for each topic covered.

**Required Materials**

Scantrons (4) – 882-E (bring with you to your exams!!)

**Suggested/Recommended Texts & Other Readings and Supplies**

- Colored pencils/pens to make notes and drawing in class/lab.
- Camera to photograph specimens and lab activities, not required, but would be very useful.

**Computer Requirements** - You will need to have access to a computer with the following resources:

- Internet access through a wired Ethernet connection
- A contemporary web browser capable of viewing flash video (Chrome works best)
- Java installed and updated
- Access to your COM e-mail account
- Microsoft Office (COM offers free Office 365 access to students)
- A PDF reader

You are responsible for maintaining your own online access to the course. Be aware that the college computers are only available during the hours of operation for the computer labs and library. It is up to you to be aware of those times and get all assignments turned in on time.

## Course Description

This course will provide a survey of biological principles with an emphasis on humans, including evolution, ecology, plant and animal diversity, and physiology. THIS COURSE IS NOT INTENDED FOR SCIENCE MAJORS. Prerequisites: CPT Reading 78/READ 0370.

## Course Requirements

- MasteringBiology – you will have numerous assignments within MasteringBiology
- Classification/Phylogenetic Project – Students will work in small groups to complete a classification/phylogenetic project on the methods of classifying organisms. Throughout the various labs, students will work to identify the organisms displayed in lab and will work together to determine the phylogenetic relationship of the organisms.

## Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading Formula:

### Lecture Grade (630 points):

- Lecture exams (300 points) – three lecture exams will be given throughout the semester (See Tentative Course Outline). The grade from the lowest exam will be replaced with the average from the final exam before calculating the final grade.
- Chapter Study Guides (60 points) - For each module, you will complete a Chapter Study Guide to be turned in via Blackboard.
- MasteringBiology (120 points) - For each topic covered, you will have assignments using Mastering Biology.
- Comprehensive Final Exam (150 points) - The final exam covers ALL material presented in lecture and assigned as reading throughout the semester.

### Laboratory Grade (240 points):

- Lab Daily Grade (50 points) – each lab will have a post-lab activity to be completed for a portion of your lab daily grade.
- Lab Practical (150 points) – one lab practical will be given throughout the semester, covering material from previous labs.
- Classification/Phylogenetic Project (40 points) – Each student will work in a group (minimum of 3 students) to complete a classification/phylogenetic project on methods of classifying organisms. The project will be graded on organization, completeness, and teamwork. Each student will grade their teammates on their ability to work in a group.

**Grade Feedback** – all assignments will be graded with grades posted on Blackboard within one week of the due date.

## Determination of Course Grade

### Lecture Grade (72%)

Lecture exams	300 points
Chapter Study Guides	60 points
MasteringBiology	120 points
Final Exam	150 points

### Laboratory Grade (27%)

Lab Daily Grade	50 points
Lab Practical	150 points
Classification Project	40 points

**Grading Scale:** Final grades assigned for this course will be based on total points earned and are assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Grade Average
A	89.5% - 100%
B	79.5% - 89.4%
C	69.5% - 79.4%
D	59.5% - 69.4%
F	0 – 59.4%

## **Lab Science Statement**

The grade for this course consists of both a lecture and laboratory component. Students must earn a 70% or better in the laboratory component to successfully pass the course. Earning less than 70% in the laboratory component will result in an F for the course regardless of the lecture grade. Passing the laboratory component and failing the lecture component will not guarantee a passing grade for the course. Deviations from this policy will be at the sole discretion of the instructor.

**Late Work, Make-Up, and Extra-Credit Policy:** Any deviations from the policies described below is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

**Late Work Policy:** The course is designed to accommodate some of life's mishaps, difficulties, or tragedies by providing extended deadlines for selected assignments. In those cases, there is a deadline extension after the initial deadline. After the extended deadline has passed, the assignment is closed, and the link may be removed. Expect that no additional time will be provided.

- Chapter Study Guides and MasteringBiology HW have an extended deadline that results in a 10% loss of points for the late assignment. After missing the initial deadline, the maximum grade is 90%. The extended deadlines are listed in the course outline. Please use the course outline to help schedule your time for the course to assure that you meet the assignment and assessment deadlines.
- Lecture Exams, Classification Project, and Lab Practical are an exception and have no extended deadline.
- Labs—will be due on the day they are completed in class. Students that are not in class will not be allowed to complete the activity.

### **Make-Up Policy:**

- Lecture Exams: Should you anticipate an absence on an exam day you must contact your instructor by phone, email or in person PRIOR to the absence. Your situation will be evaluated by your instructor and you may be allowed to take a make-up exam. Make-up exams will be allowed for a death in the family or a documented student illness. You must provide legitimate proof for your excuse in the case of missing an exam. The make-up exam MUST be taken within one week of the original exam date. Missed exams will not be allowed without documented evidence.
- Lab Practical: Due to the nature of the course, no make-up Lab Practical will be permitted.
- Labs: There are NO MAKE-UP LABS. Arriving late to lab will result in not receiving full credit for completing the lab. You are still responsible for the material covered in lab and it is YOUR responsibility to obtain the information from a classmate.

**Extra-Credit Policy:** During the semester there will be opportunities for extra credit. Students are responsible for submitting any extra credit work by the due date and no late work for extra credit will be accepted.

**Online Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to actively participate in their online course. In order to be counted as present in the online portion of this course, you must log in at least **2 times per week** to participate in the class, complete assignments, print notes, or complete quizzes. This policy follows the attendance policies prescribed in the 2018-2019 College Catalog (<http://coursecatalog.com.edu/>). Failing to log in to Blackboard, failing to log in to Mastering Nutrition, or failing to complete your work as scheduled demonstrates insufficient progress towards obtaining the course goals (objectives) and is detrimental to learning course material.

### **Laboratory Attendance Policy:**

This laboratory is designed to support the information provided by the lectures and online materials. This lab course is an introduction to fundamental biology, that covers important topics in each lab meeting. Labs are designed to last most of the lab period, therefore expect to be in lab for the full time. Arriving late to lab may result in not receiving full credit for completing the lab. You are responsible for the material covered in lab and it is YOUR responsibility to obtain any notes from a classmate. **Attendance:** Lab attendance and participation are required and directly affect your weekly lab grade. Any deviations from this policy are at the sole discretion of the instructor.

**Communicating with your instructor:** ALL electronic communication with the instructor must be through your COM email. Due to FERPA restrictions, faculty cannot share any information about performance in the class through other electronic means. Responses can be expected within 24 hours during the week or 48 hours if it is the weekend. Please be aware that I am not on campus throughout the week during this semester and am also working remotely from home. Because of this, I might not receive phone messages if you call my office. Be sure to reach out to me via COM email or through the Remind app and I will respond as soon as possible.

Student Learner Outcomes	Core Objectives	Course Level Assessments
1. Students will be able to describe modern evolutionary synthesis, natural selection, population genetics, micro and macroevolution, and speciation.		
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.	Critical Thinking	In class activity/case study
3. Students will demonstrate the ability to identify major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants and animals, including the basis for classification, structural and physiological adaptation, evolutionary history, and ecological significance.		
4. Students will be able to describe basic animal physiology and homeostasis as maintained by organ systems.		
5. Students will demonstrate the ability compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.		
6. Students will be able to illustrate the relationship between major geologic change, extinctions, and evolutionary trends.		
7. Students will apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions, and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.	Empirical and Quantitative Skills	Lab Activities
8. Students will demonstrate their ability to use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.		
9. Students will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.	Communication skills (written)	Report
10. Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support and accomplish a shared goal, while recognizing and respecting different viewpoints.	Team Work	Group activity

**Academic Dishonesty:** Any incident of academic policy will be dealt with in accordance with college policy and the Student Handbook. Academic dishonesty – such as cheating on exams is an extremely serious offense and will result in a **grade of zero** on that exam and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action.

**Plagiarism:**

Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. Plagiarism includes paraphrasing someone else’s words without giving proper citation, copying directly from a website and pasting it into your paper, using someone else’s words without quotation marks. Any assignment containing any plagiarized material will receive a **grade of zero** and the student will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for the appropriate discipline action. **Link(s) to resource(s) about avoiding plagiarism:**

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

**Student Concerns:** If you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of this course, please contact me using the contact information previously provided. If, after discussing your concern with me, you continue to have questions, please contact Dean of Academic Programs, Dr. Barney at (409)933-8727 or [rbarney@com.edu](mailto:rbarney@com.edu).

**Classroom Conduct Policy:** College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>. Students should act in a professional manner at all times. Disruptive students will be held accountable according to college policy. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Office for student Conduct and may result in dismissal from this class.

**Behavioral Expectations:** Each student is entitled to an environment conducive to learning. Any situation that prevents students from learning or the instructor from teaching is a disruption. College of the Mainland requires that students enrolled at COM be familiar with the Standards of Student Conduct, which can be found in the on-line Student Handbook. <http://www.com.edu/student-services/student-handbook.php>. Students are expected to be familiar with and abide by the Student Code of Conduct. Any violations of the Code of Conduct will result in a referral to the Dean of Students and may result in dismissal from this class. Please be respectful of your fellow students and the instructor by adhering to the following:

1. Cell phones can be used sparingly during class, but if the use begins to be a disruption to yourself, other students, or the instructor, you will be asked to put the device away. Certain devices can be used to view content on the internet; however, this is at the discretion of the instructor. Laptops are ONLY permitted during class to take notes. Surfing the internet or checking email from your laptop is not permitted. ***During exams, no electronics will be allowed out. Items not allowed include, but are not limited to, cell phones, laptops, tablets, ear buds, headphones. If the student has any of these devices out during an exam, the exam will be taken from the student and they will receive a zero for that exam.***
2. Students can be removed from the class if they are exhibiting disruptive behavior as deemed by the instructor. Repeated incidents will result in automatic withdrawal from the class. Students who display this conduct will be removed from the class and a Conduct Referral Form may be submitted to the Dean of Students.

**COVID19** – As stated in the [COM Spring 2021 Covid19 Guide](#), If you are feeling sick in any way, you need to stay home. Contact your instructor to address your absence and do not come on campus while you are ill. Failure to comply with this will result in you being asked to leave campus and can be considered disciplinary matter.

BEFORE ENTERING		
<p>ARE YOU SICK?</p>  <p>Please return home if unwell.</p>	<p>HAVE YOU SELF-SCREENED?</p>  <p><a href="http://www.com.edu/selfscreen">www.com.edu/selfscreen</a></p> <p>Please scan QR code and self-screen.</p>	<p>MASK AND SOCIAL DISTANCE</p>  <p>Please wear a mask and stay six feet apart.</p>
<p>COM   College of the Mainland.</p>		

**BIOL 1409.102HY Spring 2021 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Activities</b>
1	<b>*Tue, 1/19 MEETING</b>	SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS – Review Read me First, Blackboard, and Syllabus <b>FIRST CLASS MEETING!!! – INTRODUCTION TO COURSE</b>
	Wed, 1/20	Begin Reviewing Module 1: Chapter 14 – How Biological Diversity Evolves Introduction to Mastering Biology and How DSMs (Dynamic Study Modules) Work
	Thurs, 1/21	Complete the About Me Discussion Board Posting
	Fri, 1/22	Mastering Module 1: Chapter 14 Due (Extended Deadline 1/24) Study Guide Ch. 14 (Extended Deadline 1/24)
2	Mon, 1/25	Begin Reviewing Module 2: Chapters 18-20 – Ecology
	<b>*Tue, 1/26 MEETING</b>	Lab Safety Lab 1 – Hominid Evolution
	Fri, 1/29	Mastering Module 2: Chapters 18-20 Due (Extended Deadline 1/31) Study Guide Ch. 18-20 (Extended Deadline 1/31)
3	Mon, 2/1	Begin Reviewing Module 3: Chapter 15 – The Evolution of Microbial Life
	<b>*Tue, 2/2 MEETING</b>	Lab 2 – Prokaryotes
	Fri, 2/5	Mastering Module 3: Chapter 15 Due (Extended Deadline 2/7) Study Guide Ch. 15 (Extended Deadline 2/7)
4	<b>*Tue, 2/9 MEETING</b>	Lab 3 - Protists
5	Mon, 2/15	Begin Reviewing Module 4: Chapter 16 (Plant Part) – The Evolution of Plants and Fungi
	<b>*Tue, 2/16 MEETING</b>	<b>EXAM 1 (Modules 1-3)</b>
	Fri, 2/19	Mastering Module 4: Chapter 16 (Plant Part) Due (Extended Deadline 2/21) Study Guide Ch. 16 (Plant Part) (Extended Deadline 2/21)
6	Mon, 2/22	Begin Reviewing Module 5: Chapter 28-29 – Plant Form and Function
	<b>*Tue, 2/23 MEETING</b>	Lab 4 – Seedless Plants
	Fri, 2/26	Mastering Module 5: Chapter 28-29 Due (Extended Deadline 2/28) Study Guide Chapter 28-29 Due (Extended Deadline 2/28)
7	Mon, 3/1	Begin Reviewing Module 6: Chapter 16 (Fungi Part) – The Evolution of Plants and Fungi
	<b>*Tue, 3/2 MEETING</b>	Lab 5 – Seed Plants
	Fri, 3/5	Mastering Module 6: Chapter 16 (Fungi Part) Due (Extended Deadline 3/7) Study Guide Chapter 16 (Fungi Part) Due (Extended Deadline 3/7)
8	<b>* Tue, 3/9 MEETING</b>	Lab 6 – Fungi
<b>SPRING BREAK (March 15-19)</b>		
9	Mon, 3/22	Begin Reviewing Module 7: Chapter 17 The Evolution of Animals Part I
	<b>*Tue, 3/23 MEETING</b>	<b>EXAM 2 (Modules 4-6)</b>
	Fri, 3/26	Mastering Module 7: Chapter 17 (Part 1) Due (Extended Deadline 3/28) Study Guide Chapter 17 (Part 1) Due (Extended Deadline 3/28)
10	Mon, 3/29	Begin Reviewing Module 8: Chapter 17 The Evolution of Animals Part 2
	<b>*Tue, 3/30 MEETING</b>	Lab 7 – Invert Lab I (Porifera-Ctenophora)
	Fri, 4/2	Mastering Module 8: Chapter 17 (Part 2) Due (Extended Deadline 4/4) Study Guide Chapter 17 (Part 2) Due (Extended Deadline 4/4)
11	Mon, 4/5	Begin Reviewing Module 9: Chapter 17 The Evolution of Animals Part 3
	<b>* Tue, 4/6 MEETING</b>	Lab 8 – Lophotrochozoa
	Fri, 4/9	Mastering Module 9: Chapter 17 (Part 3) Due (Extended Deadline 4/11) Study Guide Chapter 17 (Part 3) Due (Extended Deadline 4/11)
12	Mon, 4/12	Begin Reviewing Module 10: Chapter 21 – Animal Form/Function/Chapter 22 – Nutrition and Digestion
	<b>*Tue, 4/13 MEETING</b>	Lab 9 – Ecdyszoa
	Fri, 4/16	Mastering Module 10: Chapter 21/22 Due (Extended Deadline 4/18)

		Study Guide Chapter 21/22 Due (Extended Deadline 4/18)
13	Mon, 4/19	Begin Reviewing Module 11: Chapter 23 – Circulation and Respiration/Chapter 24 – The Body’s Defenses
	<b>*Tue, 4/20 MEETING</b>	<b>EXAM 3 (Modules 7-9)</b>
	Fri, 4/23	Mastering Module 11: Chapter 23/24 Due (Extended Deadline 4/25) Study Guide Chapter 23/24 Due (Extended Deadline 4/25)
14	Mon, 4/26	Begin Reviewing Module 12: Chapter 25 – Hormones/Chapter 27 – The Nervous System/Chapter 26 – Reproduction
	<b>*Tue, 4/27 MEETING</b>	Lab 10 – Deuterostomes and Human Anatomy
	Fri, 4/30	Mastering Module 12: Chapter 25-27 Due (Extended Deadline 5/2) Study Guide Chapter 25-27 Due (Extended Deadline 5/2)
15	<b>*Tue, 5/4 MEETING</b>	<b>LAB PRACTICAL (ALL LABS)</b>
16	<b>*Tue, 5/11 MEETING</b>	<b>COMPREHENSIVE FINAL EXAM (ALL CHAPTERS)</b>



## Institutional Policies and Guidelines

**Grade Appeal Process:** Concerns about the accuracy of grades should first be discussed with the instructor. A request for a change of grade is a formal request and must be made within six months of the grade assignment. Directions for filing an appeal can be found in the student handbook. <[https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf). *An appeal will not be considered because of general dissatisfaction with a grade, penalty, or outcome of a course. Disagreement with the instructor's professional judgment of the quality of the student's work and performance is also not an admissible basis for a grade appeal.* [https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student\\_Handbook\\_2019-2020v5.pdf](https://build.com.edu/uploads/sitecontent/files/student-services/Student_Handbook_2019-2020v5.pdf)

**Academic Success & Support Services:** College of the Mainland is committed to providing students the necessary support and tools for success in their college careers. Support is offered through our Tutoring Services, Library, Counseling, and through Student Services. Please discuss any concerns with your faculty or an advisor.

**ADA Statement:** Any student with a documented disability needing academic accommodations is requested to contact Holly Bankston at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). The Office of Services for Students with Disabilities is located in the Student Success Center.

**Counseling Statement:** Any student needing counseling services is requested to please contact Holly Bankston in the student success center at 409-933-8520 or [hbankston@com.edu](mailto:hbankston@com.edu). Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email [counseling@com.edu](mailto:counseling@com.edu) to set up their appointment. Appointments are strongly encouraged; however, some concerns may be addressed on a walk-in basis.

**Textbook Purchasing Statement:** A student attending College of the Mainland is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from the college-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Students may withdraw from this course for any reason prior to the last eligible day for a "W" grade. Before withdrawing students should speak with the instructor and consult an advisor. Students are permitted to withdraw only six times during their college career by state law. The last date to withdraw is March 3rd for the 1st 8-week session, April 26 for the 16-week session, and May 5<sup>th</sup> for the 2<sup>nd</sup> 8-week session.

**F<sub>N</sub> Grading:** The F<sub>N</sub> grade is issued in cases of *failure due to a lack of attendance*, as determined by the instructor. The F<sub>N</sub> grade may be issued for cases in which the student ceases or fails to attend class, submit assignments, or participate in required capacities, and for which the student has failed to withdraw. The issuing of the F<sub>N</sub> grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an F<sub>N</sub> grade.

**Early Alert Program:** The Student Success Center at College of the Mainland has implemented an Early Alert Program because student success and retention are very important to us. I have been asked to refer students to the program throughout the semester if they are having difficulty completing assignments or have poor attendance. If you are referred to the Early Alert Program you will be contacted by someone in the Student Success Center who will schedule a meeting with you to see what assistance they can offer in order for you to meet your academic goals.

**COVID-19 Statement:** All students, faculty, and staff are expected to familiarize themselves with materials and information contained on the College of the Mainland's Coronavirus Information site at [www.com.edu/coronavirus](http://www.com.edu/coronavirus). Students are required to watch a training [video](#), complete the [self-screening](#), and acknowledge the safety guidance at: [www.com.edu/selfscreen](http://www.com.edu/selfscreen). In addition, students, faculty, and staff must perform a [self-screening](#) prior to each campus visit. Finally, students, faculty, or staff who have had symptoms of COVID-19, received a positive test for COVID-19, or have had close contact with an individual infected with COVID-19 must complete the [self-report tool](#).

**Course policies are subject to change.** It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be posted in Blackboard.