



BIOL 1406-101CL
Biology for Majors I
Fall 2021

MW 11:00 PM-1:50 PM STEAM 320

Instructor Information: Carol Connor Email: cconnor2@com.edu

Student hours and location: Monday and Wednesday 2:00 PM in adjunct suite or by appointment

Required Textbook: Textbook and/or courseware will be available through VitalSource digitally. Cost of the course materials for this section will be \$68.75. The course materials will be available on the first day of class and you will be given the opportunity to opt-out of the e-book prior to the census day of the class. If you choose not to use the course materials, you will be reimbursed after census day. The materials are not refundable after the census day. You will receive an email with more information about the use of the course materials. Additional documents will be made available on Blackboard.

Lab Manual is available through the COM Bookstore and **must be purchased prior to the first lab activity on August 30th**.

Course Description: Fundamental principles of living organisms will be studied, including physical and chemical properties of life, organization, function, evolutionary adaptation, and classification. Concepts of cytology, reproduction, genetics, and scientific reasoning are included. Prerequisite: TSIA2 945-990 ELAR/CRC test AND 5 or higher on Essay OR 910-944 on CRC with 5-6 on Diagnostic Test + 5 or higher on Essay, or [IRW 0320](#) with a grade of "C" or better. Successful completion of College Algebra or a higher-level mathematics is recommended.

Course requirements:

*Closed toe shoes are **REQUIRED** for lab. Students will not be permitted to enter the lab without proper attire. Shorts are not allowed on lab days.

*You must purchase **4 scantrons** for the exams from the Bookstore-type 888-E (39 cents each). You must turn them in to me by September 1.

Online Resources:

*COM Blackboard: <https://de.com.edu/webapps/login/> COM 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 questions regarding course access or training, please contact the Educational Technology Services <http://edtech.com.edu/> or 409-933-843.

*Mastering Biology: Students will have several assignments on Mastering Biology for each topic covered.

Determination of Course Grade/Detailed Grading:

Lecture Grade (500 points)

1. Lecture exams (400 points)-A total of four lecture exams will be given throughout the semester.
2. Homework (100 points)-Homework assignments will be given throughout the semester. For each topic covered in the lecture you will have assignments in Mastering Biology.

Laboratory Grade (350 points)

1. Lab daily grade (150 points)-Each lab will have activities to be completed for a portion of your lab daily grade.
2. Lab practical (100 points each)-Two lab practicals will be given and will cover material from lab.

Final exam (150 points)

The final exam is comprehensive and will cover all of the material presented in lecture.

Extra credit points-Assignment on Blackboard in November; points applied to an exam or final exam

Final 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.

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

Letter grade	Number of points
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	0-599

Make-up policy: **Online assignments:** Ample time is given for each student to complete the online assignments. Failure to meet these deadlines will result in a ZERO for the assignment and no extra time will be allowed to make up the assignment. In the event of an internet outage or other internet issue, at the discretion of your instructor, your assignment may be reset to allow you to take it again. Contact must be made with your instructor within 24 hours of the problem.

Attendance (labs): There are no make-up labs. The 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. You are responsible for the material covered in lab and it is YOUR responsibility to obtain any notes from a classmate. 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. **Labs are due at the end of the class.**

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

Student Learner Outcomes:

Student learner outcomes	Core objectives	Course level assessments
Students will be able to describe the characteristics of life		
Students will be able to explain the methods of inquiry used by scientists		

Students will be able to identify the basic requirements of life and the properties of the major molecules needed for life		
Students will be able to compare and contrast the structure, reproduction, and characteristics of viruses, prokaryotic cells, and eukaryotic cells	Critical thinking	Exam
Students will be able to describe the structure of cell membranes and the movement of molecules across a membrane		
Students will be able to identify the substrates, products, and important chemical pathways in metabolism	Empirical and quantitative skills	Lab activities
Students will be able to identify the principles of inheritance and solve classical genetics problems	Empirical and quantitative skills	Lab activities
Students will be able to describe the unity and diversity of life and the evidence for evolution through natural selection	Critical thinking	Exam
Students will be able to 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
Students will demonstrate their ability to use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the lab	Critical thinking	Lab practical
Students will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations	Communication skills	Paper
Students will be able to identify the chemical structures, synthesis, and regulation of nucleic acids and proteins		
Students will demonstrate the ability to work effectively with others to support and accomplish a shared goal while recognizing and respecting different viewpoints	Teamwork	Discussion board

Academic Dishonesty: Disciplinary actions will be taken for students that cheat on exams, submit plagiarized work (see below) or are involved in collusion (helping other cheat or plagiarize) as defined in the Student Handbook under the heading “Discipline and Penalties”. The maximum penalty imposed for violations will be an F in the course. The student will also be referred to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. Please read through the “Standards of Conduct” in the Student Handbook for a more complete discussion of these issues and your rights and responsibilities.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas and claiming them as your own. Plagiarism is a very serious offense. It 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 disciplinary action.

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 please contact Sheena Abernathy, Chair of the Science Department at sabernathy@com.edu or (409)933-8330

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. 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 professor from teaching is considered to be a disruption. Please be respectful of your fellow students and the professor by adhering to the following:

1. For on campus instruction: put away all unnecessary electronics. Certain devices will be used to view content on the internet. Laptops are ONLY permitted during class to take notes and respond to polls. Surfing the internet or checking email from your laptop is not permitted.
2. Due to safety reason, friends, spouses, and children are not allowed in lecture rooms or lab rooms.
3. 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 will need to meet with Dr. Kris Kimbark, Dean of Students, before being allowed to return to class.

LAB SCHEDULE

Week	Dates	Lab Activities
1	8/23-8/27	Lab safety
2	9/1	Lab 1 – Scientific Method
3	9/8	Lab 2 – pH
4	9/15	Lab 3 – Biomolecules
5	9/22	Lab 4 – Microscopes
6	9/29	Lab 5 – Cells
7	10/6	Lab 6 – Cell Transport
8	10/13	Lab Practical 1 (Labs 1-6)
9	10/20	Lab 7 – Enzymes
10	10/27	Lab 8 – Respiration and Fermentation
11	11/3	Lab 9 – Photosynthesis
12	11/10	Lab 10 – Mitosis and Meiosis
13	11/17	Lab 11 – Genetics
14	11/24	Lab 12 – DNA and Electrophoresis
15	12/1	Lab Practical 2 (Labs 7-12)

SCHEDULE

WEEK	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT	COURSE ASSIGNMENT
1 8-23:M 8-25:W	Intro to course; Themes of Biology	Entire syllabus; Ch. 1	MB Ch. 1 due Sun., Aug. 29 at 11:59 PM
2 8-30:M 9-1:W	Chemical Context of Life; Water and Life	Ch. 2 and 3	MB Ch. 2 and 3 due Sun., Sept. 5 at 11:59 PM
3 9-6:M 9-8:W	Carbon and the Molecular Diversity of Life; Structure and Function of Large Biomolecules	Ch. 4 and 5	MB Ch.4 and 5 due Sun., Sept. 12 at 11:59 PM
4 9-13:M 9-15:W	A Tour of the Cell	Ch. 6	EXAM 1 Ch. 1-5 9-13 MB Ch. 6 due Sun., Sept. 19 at 11:59 PM
5 9-20:M 9-22:W	Viruses	Ch. 19	MB Ch. 19 due Sun., Sept. 26 at 11:59 PM
6 9-27:M 9-29:W	Membrane Structure and Function; An Introduction to Metabolism	Ch. 7 and 8	MB Ch. 7 and 8 due Sun., Oct. 3 at 11:59 PM
7 10-4:M 10-6:W	Cellular Respiration	Ch.9	EXAM 2 6,7,8,19 10-4 MB Ch. 9 due Sun., Oct. 10 at 11:59 PM

8 10-11:M 10-13:W	Photosynthesis	Ch. 10	LAB PRACTICAL #1 (labs 1-6) 10-13 MB Ch. 10 due Sun., Oct. 17 at 11:59 PM
9 10-18:M 10-20:W	The Molecular Basis of Inheritance	Ch. 16	MB Ch. 16 due Sun., Oct. 24 at 11:59 PM
10 10-25:M 10-27:W	DNA Tools and Biotechnology	Ch. 20	MB Ch. 20 due Sun., Oct. 31 at 11:59 PM
11 11-1:M 11-3:W	The Cell Cycle; M7-12eiosis	Ch. 12 and 13	EXAM 3 9,10,16,20 11-1 MB Ch. 12 due Sun., Nov. 7 at 11:59 PM
12 11-8:M 11-10:W	Mendel and the Gene Idea	Ch. 14	MB Ch. 13 and 14 due Sun., Nov. 14 at 11:59 PM
13 11-15:M 11-17:W	The Chromosomal Basis of Inheritance	Ch. 15	MB Ch. 15 due Sun., Nov. 21 at 11:59 PM
14 11-22:M 11-24:W	Gene Expression	Ch. 17	EXAM 4 12,13,14,15 11-22 MB Ch. 17 due Sun., Nov. 28 at 11:59 PM
15 11-29:M 12-1:W	Evolution	Ch. 22	LAB PRACTICAL #2 (labs 7-12) 12-1 MB Ch. 22 due Sun., Dec. 5 at 11:59 PM
16 12-6:M 12:8:W			FINAL EXAM-ALL CHAPTERS 12-8

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.

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.

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. 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. Counseling services are available on campus in the student center for free and students can also email 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 from the 16-week session is November 19.**

FN Grading: The FN grade is issued in cases of failure due to a lack of attendance, as determined by the instructor. The FN 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 FN grade is at the discretion of the instructor. The last date of attendance should be documented for submission of an FN 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. In compliance with Governor Abbott's May 18 Executive Order, face coverings/masks will no longer be required on COM campus. Protocols and college signage are being updated. We will no longer enforce any COM protocol that requires face coverings. We continue to encourage all members of the COM community to distance when possible, use hygiene measures, and get vaccinated to protect against COVID-19. Please visit com.edu/coronavirus for future updates.