

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL SCIENCES
LAGUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
STUDENT SYLLABUS

Course Title: Topics in Biology SCB101.601

Course Hours/Credits: 3 hours – 3 credits

Prerequisites: CSE099, ENG099, MAT096 or Waivers

Instructor:

Contact Information:

email

Office Hours:

Course Description:

This course, which is designed for non-biology majors, is intended to introduce students to some of the most important aspects of current biological theory, methodology, and research. The course earns General Education credit under the Life and Physical Sciences category. Successful students will demonstrate the skills necessary to understand and apply scientific concepts and reasoning. Concepts will derive from cell biology, genetics, biotechnology, evolutionary theory, organismal biology and ecology. Students will also be expected to understand application of the scientific method to data collection, analysis and interpretation. In support of these goals, laboratory work will be an integral part of the course, with every other week exercises that parallel topics covered in the lecture class.

Course Coordinator: Dr. Tonya Hendrix

Contact Information:

email thendrix@lagcc.cuny.edu

office M-220D

Required Materials:

Textbook: Biology for the Informed Citizen, with Physiology (2014), by Donna Bozzone and Douglass Green Looseleaf; ISBN: 9780190617516

A study guide is also available for the text.

study guide; ISBN: 9780199958016

study guide with text; ISBN: 9780190630393

Laboratory Manual: Topics in Biology Laboratory Exercises (2017), Tonya Hendrix (2012).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance: Students are required to attend all lecture and laboratory sessions. Lateness or absence of greater than 10% is considered excessive and could result in a lowering of your course grade.

The **final course** grade will be based on the following:

Lecture:	
5 Quizzes (5 points each - lowest dropped)	20%
Midterm Examination	15%
Final Examination	15%
Assignments*	15%
Laboratory:	
6 lab reports (3 points each – lowest dropped)	15%
Lab Midterm Examination	10%
Lab Final Examination	10%

**The nature of the assignments will be announced in class.*

No make-ups will be permitted on quizzes missed due to absence or lateness. However, the lowest quiz grade will be dropped.

Make-ups on midterms and finals will be permitted only with documented absence (e.g. doctor's note). However, make-up examinations will tend to be considerably more difficult than the scheduled examinations.

Grade Standards:

Quizzes: There will be five quizzes, each quiz of about twenty five minutes duration, throughout the semester (see Course Schedule below).

The College's regulations regarding cheating will be strictly enforced. The policy on academic integrity is available at the following address:

<http://library.laguardia.edu/files/pdf/academicintegritypolicy.pdf>

Course Grade:

A	=	93-100
A-	=	90-92.9
B+	=	87-89.9
B	=	83-86.9
B-	=	80-82.9
C+	=	77-79.9
C	=	73-76.9
C-	=	70-72.9
D+	=	67-69.9
D	=	63-66.9
D-	=	60-62.9
F	<	59.9

Grading: A minimum of 60% of the possible points must be earned in order to receive a passing grade for the course.

Artifact Assessment

This class will be depositing student work for this semester. Students will be depositing an assignment for the Inquiry and Problem Solving competency and Written Communication ability.

For a tutorial on how to deposit student work, go to:

<http://eportfolio.lagcc.cuny.edu/support/tutorials.htm> and find the section called, “Assessment for Students.” Click on the adobe flash button for “Depositing Assessment Artifact in Digication Instructions for Students.” You will see a brief video on how to deposit.

Important Dates

LECTURE

Schedule - Subject to modification with notice

WEEK #	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
1 (2-Hour)	Nature of Biology	Ch. 1
1 (1-Hour)	Nature of Science	Ch. 2
2 (1-Hour)	Nature of Science (cnt'd)	Ch. 2
3 (2-Hour)	Quiz #1 (Ch. 1-2) Cell Structure & Function	Ch. 3
3 (1-Hour)	Cells in Human Development	Ch.3
4(1-Hour)	Cells in Disease (Cancer)	Ch. 5
5(2-Hour)	Quiz #2 (Ch. 3, 5) Inheritance, Genes, and Physical Characteristics	Ch. 4
5(1-Hour)	Inheritance, Genes, and Physical Characteristics (cnt'd)	Ch. 4
6(1-Hour)	MIDTERM EXAM Lecture (Ch. 1-5)	
7(2-Hour)	Homeostasis and the Urinary System	Ch. 11
7(1-Hour)	MIDTERM EXAM Lab	(Covers Labs 1-3)
8(1-Hour)	Circulation and Respiration	Ch. 12
9(2-Hour)	Quiz #3 (Ch. 11, 12) Nutrition and Wellness	Ch. 15
9(1-Hour)	Reproduction	Ch. 6
10(1-Hour)	Reproduction	Ch. 6
11(2-Hour)	Quiz #4 (Ch. 6,15) Evolution	Ch. 9
11(1-Hour)	Evolution (cnt'd)	Ch. 9
12(1-Hour)	Quiz #5 (Ch. 9) Ecology	Ch. 16
13	FINAL EXAM	

Finals Week	(Lab and Lecture)	
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LABORATORY

Schedule

WEEK	LAB	TOPIC
2	1, 2, & 3	Metric system & Scientific Method
4	4 & 5	Microscope & Cell structure
6	7	Connecting Meiosis and Genetics
7		Mid-term Lab Exam
8	8	DNA Isolation/Biotechnology
10	9 & 10	Fetal Pig Anatomy & Food Analysis
12	12	Ecosystems
13 Finals Week		Final Lab Exam

The new lab manual contains pre- and post-lab exercises for each of the exercises.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Tutoring:

Science Study Center - Rm E-342

Anatomy and Physiology Study Center – Rm E-312

Academic Peer Instruction - Rm E-115

Student Government Association Tutoring Program - Rm M-159

Disabilities Act:

If you have a physical, psychological or learning disability which may interfere with your ability to complete assignments, then please contact Disabled Student Services (DSS), Room M-102 / 718-482-5279. They will review your concerns and determine with you, what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All documentation of and information regarding disabilities is confidential. **You must register with the Disabilities Office to receive special accommodations.**

The Writing Center:

The Writing Center, Room B-200, offers tutoring in writing skills and assistance on individual papers, both for this class and others. The Center is open Monday-Friday from 9:15am-9:00pm.

The Health Services Center:

The Health Services Center promotes health, safety, and the well-being of the college community. The goal is to help each student achieve optimum health to ensure their participation in the educational opportunities at LaGuardia Community College.

Among the services offered are:

1. Immunization
2. Health Counseling
3. Health education
4. Personal Counseling (i.e., family issues, anxiety, depression, etc.)

Services are free to LAGCC students and the Center is located in MB-40 and can be reached at 718-482-5280.

Revised: 08/28/2017 – T. Hendrix