

## Syllabus

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**Instructor: Dr. Steven J. Wolf**

**Office:** Naraghi Hall of Science 269

**Office Hours:** MWF 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.; and by appointment.

**Phone:** 667-3489. If you leave a message speak slowly and clearly or your call will not be returned.

**Email:** [swolf@csustan.edu](mailto:swolf@csustan.edu) Email is for emergencies, setting up an appointment, or for questions with very short answers. Put Biol 1050 in the subject line or it will not be acknowledged by your instructor. Please ask complex questions during the lecture or office hours. Questions regarding grades and/or those answered on the syllabus will not be acknowledged.

**Lectures:** Tues. and Thurs. 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. in N-101.

**Text:** Campbell Biology Custom 9th Edition, Reese, et al. ISBN 0558923763. Text is required for access to online assignments and homework. It will also be used for Biol 1150. Figures used in lecture will come from your text. So it is suggested you bring the appropriate chapters to lecture.

**Mastering Biology:** You must register for the course at: [masteringbiology.com](http://masteringbiology.com) and complete the first assignment, which teaches you how to use the site. The course ID is: **BIOL1050SWOLF**. Be sure to explore the study area.

**iClickers:** You are required to purchase an iClicker remote for in-class participation. iClicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions posed during class, and you will be graded on those questions. In order to receive this credit, you need to register your iClicker remote online at: <http://www.iclicker.com/registration>. Complete the fields with your first name, last name, student ID, and remote ID. Be sure to include the preceding zeros, E.g., 000456123 of your ID number. The remote ID is the series of numbers and letters found on the bottom of the back of your iClicker remote. The iClickers will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing your remote daily.

Numerous studies have demonstrated that iClickers improve student learning. iClickers have been adopted by most Biology faculty and many other departments on campus. So you will use it again for several classes. There will be 2- 3 graded iClicker questions per class. So regular attendance is essential. The iClicker may also be used for anonymous polling, provoking discussions, and to gauge student comprehension of difficult topics. Information from these types of questions is not recorded, so your anonymity is guaranteed.

**Homework:** Online homework at [masteringbiology.com](http://masteringbiology.com) will be assigned for each text chapter covered. You will have one week to complete each assignment.

**Homework due 9:30 am Nov. 22:** Watch [Intelligent Design trial video](#) and hand in [question worksheet](#) worth 10 pts. Requires free [Acrobat Reader](#). Questions on this material will appear on the final exam.

**Laptops:** If you use a laptop computer in class it must be used only for purposes relevant to the course and you **must** sit in the first row. A first time violation will result in a 20 point deduction from your grade. A second violation will result in 50 points deducted from your grade and you will no longer be allowed to use a laptop in the class.

**Audio\Video Recording:** Recording of lectures is not permitted without written consent from your

instructor.

**Announcements:** Consult the [announcements page](#) often for important, up to the minute information.

**No classes on the following days:**

Oct. 11 - Columbus Day

Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving

**Course objectives:** This course is intended to:

1. to help you develop good academic habits: regular and prompt attendance, good study habits, and good note taking.
2. provide an understanding of what science is and its methodologies.
3. provide an overview of the issues, principles, methodologies, and perspectives of biology.
4. provide a foundation for further study in the biological sciences.
5. develop an understanding to allow effective communication on biological issues.
6. provide a working background to critically evaluate biological issues and develop continuous inquiry and life-long learning.
7. provide the framework to understand, examine critically, and use information from various sources to answer questions relevant to biology.
8. provide an understanding of the accomplishments of selected individuals to biology.
9. demonstrate the relationships between the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, geology and the other sciences with an emphasis on how these fields are closely inter-related.
10. develop more informed and responsible citizens with respect to issues concerning the living world.

**Teaching philosophy:** "Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will eat for a lifetime" - Confucius. Your instructor is here to teach you to fish, i.e. think. You are expected to read your text prior to each lecture, study regularly, and to consult your text and notes when you have a question. Your instructor will be happy to answer questions once you have made an honest effort to do so on your own. A question may sometimes be answered with a question, or your fellow classmates may be called upon to help answer it. This is to lead you to the answer, not embarrass you. You are only asked to make an honest effort to answer the question. However, if you are not keeping up with the material then you may indeed be embarrassed.

**Exams:** There will be three one hour midterm exams, each worth 100 points, and a 90 minute final exam worth 150 points. If you are late then you will have less time to complete the exam. Traffic and/or car problems are not acceptable excuses for being late. Leave early on exam days to ensure you will be on time. Always bring a #2 pencil and Scantron form **883-E** (or ES) to the exams. Purchase the proper scantron form well in advance of exams. No excuses, including the bookstore runs out of them, will be accepted for not having the proper form. **There are several important terms, on the definitions page, that you must know the exact definition.**

You must not leave the room during an exam without the instructors permission. You must turn off cell phones and remove baseball caps during exams. If your cell phone rings during an exam five (5) points will be deducted from your score. Failing to follow instructions written on your exam will result in two (2) points being deducted for **each** violation. No food or drinks are permitted during exams. Cell phones must be put away during exams. Taking out a cell phone during an exam is considered cheating, your exam will be confiscated, and you will receive a grade of F for that exam.

**Note:** the Scantron machine sometime makes mistakes, particularly when you change an answer and do not completely erase the other choice. In order to verify these mistakes you **must** also circle the correct answer on the **question** sheet. Challenges to the machine's accuracy will **not** be accepted if you did not do so. You have until the **next** class period, after

the exam is returned, to challenge its accuracy.

It is **your** responsibility to notify the instructor **prior** to missing an exam and to supply him with a valid, **written** excuse. There will be **no** extra credit nor makeup exams. All requests to take exams at other than scheduled times must be in writing to the instructor at least **one week** prior to the scheduled exam. If you miss an exam for a **legitimate** emergency it is still your responsibility to notify the instructor immediately. Under no circumstances will you be allowed to take an exam once it has been handed back.

Exams may consist of multiple choice, matching, short answers, diagrams, and short or long essays. **The instructor reserves the right to give unannounced quizzes if it becomes apparent that students are not keeping up with the material and/or there are an unacceptable number of absences.** If you happen to be absent that day or you fail to follow instructions, you will receive a grade of 0 for that quiz.

Activity	Date	Value
Exam 1	Sept. 15	100 pts.
Exam 2	Oct. 18	100 pts.
Exam 3	Nov. 15	100 pts.
Exam 4	Dec. 15	150 pts.
Homework	1 week after covered	100 pts.
iClicker	Every class	50 pts.
ID Trial	Nov. 22	10 pts.
Lab		290 pts.
Total		900 pts.

**Exam Procedures:** on exam days fill **all** seats beginning with the front row. Exams will not begin if there are any unfilled seats, and you will have less time for the exam.

**Grades:** A = 100-90%, B = 89.9-80%, C = 79.9-70%, D = 69.9-60%, F <60%, CR > 69.9%, NC < 70%. Keep track of your grades, including the iClicker questions. **Do not** ask your instructor to calculate your grades for you.

**Grading Options:** November 22, 10:45 am is **last day** you may change your grading option. **No exceptions.** To do so you must have your instructor sign an add/drop form. It is **your** responsibility to turn this form in to Admissions and Records by 5 pm that day. Your instructor will strictly follow the grading option indicated on the final grade sheet supplied by Admissions and Records. Consult with your advisor before making your decision. Grades will **not** be changed once they have been submitted.

**Important Date: September 19 is the last day to drop the course.**

**Student Conduct:** In such a large class it is essential that students respect the rights of others. Therefore, those who disrupt the class by talking or any other means will be asked to leave. Repeat offenders may

have points deducted from their final grade and/or be turned over to the appropriate student disciplinary committee. Turn off your cell phones.

**Cheating:** There is a zero tolerance policy. Any cheating whatsoever will result in an automatic F in the class and the matter will be turned over to the appropriate student disciplinary committee. Submitting a quiz for another student and/or using another student's iClicker **or two remotes**, are also considered cheating. Taking out a cell phone during an exam is considered cheating, your exam will be confiscated, and you will receive a grade of F.

**Study skills:** As a beginning Biology major it is essential that you develop good note taking, attendance and study habits. This course is designed to introduce you to the basic principles and processes of biology necessary to continue in the major. Therefore, you can not just memorize and forget. You will need this knowledge the rest of your biology career.

To gain the most from lectures, it is best to read relevant text material and class notes beforehand and make a few notes or prepare questions for especially difficult material. Do not be overly concerned if you do not immediately grasp the material, if it were that easy we would not need lectures. During class pay attention and take complete and orderly notes. Do not assume you will remember things because they are easy or obvious; several weeks later when you are preparing for an exam they may not seem so easy or obvious. Pay particular attention to diagrams, lists and terms written on the board as well as anything the instructor clearly emphasizes by tone of voice.

During lecture do not hesitate to ask questions, make constructive comments or contribute if you have expertise on a particular subject. The only "dumb question" is an un-asked one! Very soon after class you should re-read the text material along with your notes. You may find you missed something in lecture or the text, and very frequently you may find misspellings in your notes. Make frequent use of your text glossary and index for further explanations on a subject you still don't understand. At the beginning of the next lecture period (or at his office) ask the instructor to clear up any problems you may still have. This will help both the instructor and the other students. The instructor needs your feedback in order to know if the class is encountering any problems.

<b>Lecture Schedule</b>	
<b>Campbell Chapter</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Introduction/Science
2	Chemistry of Life
3	Water and Life
4	Carbon
5	Macromolecules
6	The Cell
7	Membranes
8	Metabolism

9	Cellular Respiration
10	Photosynthesis
12	Cell Cycle
13	Meiosis
14	Mendelian Genetics
15	Chromosomes
16	Molecular Basis of Inheritance
17	Transcription and Translation
22	Darwin and Evolution
23	Population Genetics
24	Speciation
	Additional if time

**The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.**