

PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY (BIOL 1010-004) SYLLABUS
TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm; Room P167

Instructor: Dr. Katherine M. Schroeder

Email: kschroeder@csustan.edu

Office hours: MW: 1:30-2:30 pm or by appointment, room N252

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Scope of course:

This course satisfies the B2 (biological science) lower division general education requirement. We will explore basic biological phenomena as they relate to all living organisms, specifically (1) molecules and cells, (2) genetics, (3) evolution and (4) ecology.

Course objectives:

After completing this course you should be able to (1) demonstrate your ability to think like a biologist, (2) speak & write coherently about biology with biologists and non-biologists alike, (3) apply biological knowledge to make informed decisions in your life.

Required text and other materials:

- Text: *Campbell Essential Biology CSUS Custom Edition* by Simon, Reese and Dickey OR *Campbell Essential Biology, 5th edition*. (Custom edition has fewer chapters but is otherwise the same as the regular version).
- Mastering Biology course access code. An access code is included with the purchase of the textbook at the CSU bookstore. The course ID is: MBSCHROEDER1010F14. To set up, go to: <http://www.pearsonmylabandmastering.com/northamerica/masteringbiology/>; more details on Blackboard
- Online access to Blackboard: csustan.edu/Blackboard/
- iclicker: Can buy, reuse, rent. Must register your iclicker, using your CSU student ID, at <http://www1.iclicker.com/register-clicker/>.
- Five Scantron 882-E sheets, and no. 2 pencil and good eraser for exams

Grading

	% of final grade
Midterm 1	15
Midterm 2	15
Midterm 3	15
Final exam	20
Mastering Biology homework	25
iclicker	10
Total	100

Midterm exams

- Four midterm exams; lowest score dropped; multiple choice; 40 questions per exam

Final exam

- Mandatory; 100 questions, 30 questions new material, 70 comprehensive

Assignments on Mastering Biology

- Twenty assignments, one per chapter
- Due as specified on the mastering biology course website; note: except for beginning of semester, due at 6pm day after chapter lecture according to course outline (even if I don't finish chapter lecture on time)
- Weighted equally; two missed assignments will not affect grade
- Details discussed in class and posted on Blackboard

iClicker remote

- Will use most days; two missed days will not affect your grade
- Points count toward grade after first week
- Each day used: three questions, up to three points earned—one for participation, two for correct answers (so if miss one of three questions, still get full points)
- Questions on material covered that same day

Final grade

93-100% = A	87-89% = B+	77-79% = C+	67-69% = D+
90-92% = A-	83-86% = B	73-76% = C	60-66% = D
	80-82% = B-	70-72% = C-	0-59% = F

Grading options

- I am willing to sign credit/no credit (CR/NC) forms until last day due at Enrollment Services, but I will not change grades after submitting them.

Other

- No makeups *after* exam or assignment due times. If you miss one midterm exam, that will be considered your lowest score, which gets dropped. If you know you will miss a subsequent exam, and you have a valid excuse, I may arrange for you to take the exam before its scheduled time. You would need to let me know in writing at least two weeks in advance.
- Learning resources available to you include MasteringBiology.com, and free on-campus tutoring at 1) The Central Valley Math & Science Alliance (Naraghi Hall 124), and 2) Tutoring Services (CSUS Library 112). In addition, we will have a Supplemental Instructor (more details in class).

Course Outline			
Week	Date	Chapter Title	Chapter
1	8/21	Overview	
2	8/26	Introduction: Biology Today	1
	8/28	Essential Chemistry for Biology	2
3	9/2	The Molecules of Live	3
	9/4	A Tour of the Cell	4
4	9/9	Catch up; review	
	9/11	Exam 1	
5	9/16	The Working Cell	5
	9/18	Cellular Respiration: Obtaining Energy from Food	6
6	9/23	Photosynthesis: Using Light to Make Food	7
	9/25	Cellular Reproduction: Cells from Cells	8
7	9/30	Catch up; review	
	10/2	Exam 2	
8	10/7	Patterns of Inheritance	9
	10/9	The Structure and Function of DNA	10
9	10/14	How Genes are Controlled	11
	10/16	DNA Technology	12
10	10/21	Catch up; review	
	10/23	Exam 3	
11	10/28	How Populations Evolve	13
	10/30	How Biological Diversity Evolves	14
12	11/4	The Evolution of Microbial Life	15
	11/6	Plants, Fungi, and the Move onto Land	16
13	11/11	Veteran's day (no class)	
	11/13	Catch up; review	
14	11/18	Exam 4	
	11/20	The Evolution of Animals	17
15	11/25	An Introduction to Ecology and the Biosphere	18
	11/27	Thanksgiving holiday (no classes)	
16	12/2	Population Ecology	19
	12/4	Communities and Ecosystems	20
17	12/9	Catch up; review	
18	12/16	Comprehensive Final Exam 11:15-1:15	