

World of Biology Laboratory
Biology 1020 Section 6
Spring 2010

I. General Information

Professor: Dr. Matt Cover

Office Hours: Wednesday 1:30-2:30, Thurs 3-5, or by appointment

Office: N-256

Email: mcover@biology.csustan.edu (preferred communication method; I usually respond in <24 hrs)

Office Phone: (209) 664-6694

Website: <http://science.csustan.edu/cover/>

Course Website: Blackboard (<http://bb/csustan.edu>)

Required Text: *World of Biology 1020 Laboratory Workbook*

Class Time/Place: Wednesday (2:30 – 5:38 p.m.) in N223

II. Course Description

World of Biology is designed to provide students with laboratory and field experience in a wide range of biological fields. We will explore many of the topics that are covered in Biology 1010, but in 1020 we have the luxury of actually doing some of the experiments discussed in lecture. Many students find the interactive, hands-on component of 1020 to be exciting, and enjoy working collaboratively on projects with other students and the instructor.

The 7 Goals of Biology GE Courses:

1. Provide an overview of basic knowledge, principles, methodologies, theories, and perspectives in biology.
2. Offer opportunities to work in groups with other students to practice effective communication about concepts and issues in biology.
3. Provide a broad understanding and appreciation of biology and encourage continuous inquiry and lifelong learning.
4. Provide the framework to critically evaluate and use information from various scientific sources to answer questions relevant to biology.
5. Understand the relationships between the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, geology and other sciences.
6. Appreciate the interdependence of humans, natural ecosystems, and the diversity of life on earth.
7. Develop more informed and responsible citizens with respect to issues concerning the living world.

III. Grading

Grades will be based on laboratory write-ups, quizzes, an optional final, and microscope care.

Laboratory write-ups (11 @ 10 pts. per lab.)

110

Quizzes (10 @ 10 points per quiz)

100

Total

210

- The Final Exam is optional and can be worth up to 20 points. Ten of those points will replace your lowest quiz grade. Up to 10 additional points will count as extra credit. The final will be comprehensive and stress concepts addressed in each lab.
- We will be using microscopes for four laboratories. During these labs, up to 5 points per lab may be deducted if microscopes and slides are not handled or stored properly.
- Grades will be based on the percentage of points earned, using standard cutoffs (>93% A, 90-93% A-, 87-90% B+, etc.).
- If you take the credit/no credit option: CR 70-100% NC 0-70%

- March 11th is the last day you may change your grading option to credit/no credit. To do so you must have your instructor sign a yellow add/drop form. It is your responsibility to turn this form in to Admissions and Records. Consult with your advisor before making your decision. Grades will not be changed once they have been submitted. The last day to drop the course entirely is also March 11th.
- Please note that Biology 1020 and Biology 1010 are graded separately.

IV. Laboratory Policies

World of Biology is a laboratory course and as such requires your presence. Your grade is based on laboratory write-ups, quizzes, and microscope care. You can only get points for lab write-ups and quizzes if you attend lab. Because the laboratory setups change from class to class, it is not possible to make-up missed laboratories. Unexcused absences will result in no points for lab write-ups and also in no points for the quiz given that day. You can drop your lowest quiz, but there is no way to make up for missed labs.

At the beginning of each class students should turn in their write-up from the previous week's lab. For example, turn in your Nature of Science lab write-up at the beginning of the lab on Cells and Microscopes. For most of the laboratories, you will work in groups of two or four students. However, **each student should turn in his/her own write-up for each laboratory**. Do not simply write the same answers as your lab partner. **Duplicate answers on multiple students' assignments will be given no credit**. Instead, synthesize results and put your answers in your own words. Write-ups will be graded based on completeness, accuracy, and legibility.

Quizzes will begin promptly at the beginning of lab. If you are late you will have less time to complete your quiz. If you arrive after a quiz has been collected you will not be able to take that quiz.

I have a no-tolerance policy for cheating. Students cheating on quizzes or exams, representing the work of others as their own, or turning in lab assignments for labs not attended will certainly receive a zero for that assignment and may receive an F in the class.

V. Laboratory Schedule

Feb 17	Nature of Science
Feb 24	Cells and Microscopes
Mar 3	Transport
Mar 10	Metabolism
Mar 17	Mitosis
Mar 24	Genetics
Mar 31	No Class- César Chávez Holiday
Apr 7	No Class- Spring Break
Apr 14	Evolution
Apr 21	Plant Biology
Apr 28	Animal Adaptations
May 5	Populations
May 12	Ecology **Note: The Evolution Lab will be done outside. Bring a calculator.
May 19	Final Exam