

**CSU Stanislaus BIOLOGY 1020-008: “World of Biology Laboratory”  
Course Syllabus**

**Labs: Thursdays 11:00 AM – 1:50 PM, Naraghi Hall of Science 223**

**Instructor:** Deanna “DJ” Beals

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**Office Hours:** Weds. 12-2pm, or by appt.

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*\*Best way to contact me is by phone during office hours, or by e-mail.*

**Required text:** “World of Biology 1020 Laboratory Workbook, 5<sup>th</sup> edition” by Stevens and Fleming (2012). *\*Bring this to lab*

**Additional text that may be helpful;** The BIOL 1010 text, “Campbell Essential Biology” (4<sup>th</sup> edition or newer) by Eric J. Simon, Jane B. Reece, and Jean L. Dickey (2010 or newer).

**Announcements:** Check your CSU Stan email, and on the class BlackBoard (BB) [www.blackboard.csustan.edu](http://www.blackboard.csustan.edu) (Login and password same as your CSU Stan)

**Course Description:** “World of Biology Laboratory” satisfies the lower division area B general education lab requirement. The course is intended to provide students with laboratory experience in various biological contexts, mostly related to concepts covered in BIOL 1010. Note that while this lab does parallel BIOL 1010 closely, it is taken and graded separately from BIOL 1010.

**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) Use biological knowledge to make informed decisions in your life.

**My Teaching Philosophy:** I will provide an interactive and patient learning experience that will help academic success in biology. I will focus on not only teaching the subject matter, but also *how* I teach you.

**Your Participation in Lab:**

Before lab:

- \* Complete the previous lab’s assignment
- \* Read through and take notes on the lab that we will be doing (mark if you have questions, and ask them during class)
- \* Read any accompanying text to get a good understanding of the topic we will be discussing
- \* Check for any announcements.

### Bring to lab:

- \* Your notes, assignments, text, and a calculator.

### During lab:

- \* Please do your best to show up on time
- \* Turn in any assignments due when you come in (e-mailed assignments are not accepted), and check for hand-outs.
- \* Be prepared to take a quiz at the beginning of lab.
- \* Ask questions and share your ideas.
- \* You will talk and work frequently with your peers in small groups, and presenting to the whole class.
- \* Do not disrupt the rights, property, or learning environment of others. Act in the interest of others and help create and maintain an environment that is comfortable and conducive to learning.

### After lab:

- \* Clean up your area, or other messes that obviously need tending to. If you see someone else who needs help, ask if they want assistance.

**Evolution:** "Respect for data, comfort in faith." Evolution and natural selection are central tenets of biology and will be critical aspects of this course, openly discussed and referred to frequently.

**Math:** We will be using simple statistics such as calculating averages and variances, as well as making and interpreting graphs.

*\*A calculator, and skills in using Microsoft Excel will help you. If you have not used Excel for math-type stuff, search some tutorial you-tube videos to get a better understanding.*

**Lab Policies:** (1) Safety, (2) Teamwork, (3) Data.

Please demonstrate proper care for and use of lab materials and supplies. A safe lab in a productive lab. Please report any spills, broken equipment, or any other safety concerns to the instructor immediately. If you see something (or hear, smell, feel...) say something!

Like any lab course, this one requires your active participation each week, frequently in group situations. Your lab partners depend on you (and you depend on them) for working through each lab. This includes proper set up of experiments, data collection, and thoughtful interpretation of results. When working in groups it is encouraged to share ideas, but each student is required to do their own work (make their own interpretations), and turn in their own work.

As per university regulations, students who miss the first lab or are habitually late/absent will be dropped from the course. Quizzes begin at the beginning of class, and if you are late you will have less time (or none!) to complete the quiz. It is extremely unlikely to make up missed quizzes or labs. Unexcused absences always result in zero points for the week's grades.

\* *The final exam for this lab is optional!* It will be comprehensive and structured similar to lab quizzes.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:** Don't do it! Your work should reflect your own ideas, efforts, and words. Any verified instance of cheating and/or plagiarism will result in

**Special Accommodations:** This course is Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible. Students with documented disabilities should seek special accommodations for all classes through the Disability Resource Services (DRS) office on campus (2<sup>nd</sup> floor MSR building). If DRS notifies the instructor that you require ADA accommodations, then the instructor will provide those accommodations (such as video/audio recording, hiring a note-taker, extended test time etc.).

\* *If you record this lab in any form (video/audio/photo etc.) without permission or without accommodation from DRS, that constitutes intellectual property theft.*

**Student Athletes:** Your coach should contact the instructor if you are going to miss lab for games/matches ASAP. I will accommodate your schedule by allowing alternate lab dates if possible, otherwise I will provide an alternative assignment to excuse missed points.

**Important Dates:**

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> – Last day to add this class

Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – Census Date. Last day to drop the course or change your grading option without instructor signature; *it is your responsibility to submit the grade change form to Admissions and Records by 5pm that day.*

Mar 26<sup>th</sup> – Last day to change your grading option with my signature. I strictly adhere to the grading option Academic Records has on file for you when I submit final grades. I will not change grades once final grades have been submitted.

**Grading:** All materials will be graded and returned to you the following lab period. Grades are based on lab assignments, quizzes, participation, and the optional final exam. No other points are available. Assignments are graded based on completely answering all questions, data collection, and careful presentation of graphs and diagrams. We will go over all lab write-ups and quizzes in class and you will have an opportunity to see a key to check your answers for correctness. *Late work will not be accepted except in dire circumstances/emergencies, and then you must provide documentation of hardship.* All submitted work must be original and turned in during lab; photocopies or scans (e-mail) are not acceptable.

| <b>Assignment</b>  | <b>Points</b>     |
|--|-------------------|
| 12 quizzes x 5 pts. ea.<br>(lowest two scores dropped)   | 50                |
| 12 write-ups x 5 pts. ea.<br>(lowest two scores dropped) | 50                |
| Optional final exam                                      | 10                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>100 to 110</b> |

**A = 90 or above    B = 80-89    C = 70-79    D = 60-69    F = 59 or below**

No +/- grading will be applied to your final grade.

*Cheating in any form is inappropriate conduct and will be dealt with swiftly and severely according to Sections 41301-41304 of Title 5 of the "California Code of Regulations" which includes expulsion, suspension or probation.*

**Tentative Lab Schedule:**

| <b>Week</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Topic/Activity</b>                              |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| 1           | 1/30        | Attendance, Safety                                 |
| 2           | 2/6         | Nature of Science                                  |
| 3           | 2/13        | Cells & Microscopes                                |
| 4           | 2/20        | Transport  |
| 5           | 2/27        | Metabolism   |
| 6           | 3/6         | Cell Cycle & Mitosis                               |
| 7           | 3/13        | Genetics & Meiosis                                 |
| 8           | 3/20        | Phylogenetic Tree                                  |
| 9           | 3/27        | Evolution<br><i>*outdoor lab, bring calculator</i> |
| 10          | 4/3         | Plants   |
| 11          | 4/10        | Animal Adaptations                                 |
| 12          | 4/17        | Population Parameters                              |
| <b>13</b>   | <b>4/24</b> | <b>SPRING BREAK</b>                                |
| 14          | 5/1         | Central CA Ecology                                 |
| 15          | 5/7         | Last assignment due, optional final exam           |