

Course Title: Survey of Biology

Course Number: BIOL 010

Section Number: 02

Course Code: 21460

Lecture Location and Time: Cunningham, Room 333, TuTh 11AM–12:30PM

Lab Location and Time: Cunningham, Room 216, TuTh 9:30AM–11AM

Instructor: Paul C. Ustach, Ph.D.

Office: Cunningham, Room 240

Office Hours: MTuWTh 12:30–1:30PM and Fridays 9–10AM or by appointment.

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Instructor web site: <http://www.deltacollege.edu/emp/pustach>

Course Prerequisites: Reading Level II

Required Textbook(s) and Materials:

LECTURE TEXT: *Life on Earth*, latest Edition by Audesirk, Audesirk, & Byers

MATERIALS: Three ring binder and pencil with eraser

Course Description: This course is an introduction to biology for non-science majors which includes the following areas: biological concepts and principles, ecological relationships, environmental issues, evolutionary development, and kingdoms of life. On and off-campus fieldwork is required. The course meets the CSU general education laboratory science requirement and IGETC requirements (UC, CSU).

Course Learning Goals/Objectives:

Students will gain a general understanding of biological processes and structures, specifically, genetics, evolution, and ecology. Biological concepts related to issues of health, social, and environmental concerns will also be addressed.

Attendance and Drop Policy: It is your responsibility to attend class in accordance with college attendance policies. Refer to the college catalog. If your attendance does not meet these requirements, the instructor (me) may drop you. If there is a waiting list, students will be dropped who don't show up for the first lecture and lab meetings (no exceptions!). Students will be added in the order they appear on the official waiting list. I may dismiss you from class when absences become excessive. Do NOT rely on your instructor to drop you from the course—it is your responsibility.

Specific Course Requirements:

To achieve the purposes and goals of this course the student must read all assigned work, attend classes in keeping with Board policy, be willing to devote adequate time to study outside of class, take a complete set of class notes, complete all laboratory assignments, participate in classroom discussions, help

keep the lab clean and orderly. Additionally you must take all examinations on the day they are scheduled and turn in a complete set of laboratory experiments.

Lectures. You should be familiar with the assigned readings before coming to lecture. I use lecture as a forum to animate ideas and concepts introduced in the text by providing real-life examples and experiences. Of course, asking questions to clarify is highly encouraged and be prepared for me to ask YOU questions as well. I hope to emphasize your development of basic skills such as writing, speaking, and critical thinking. I will also encourage you to work together and foster working scientific relationships with your classmates.

Labs. I require – and give points for – a final lab packet (the three ring binder) containing all of the completed laboratory exercises.

Required Field Lab. The College catalog stipulates that one field lab is required for this course. We will be going in the field for one day. We will leave campus at 7:30 AM, and return to campus at 4 PM. Date and specifics will be handed out about one month prior to the field lab. Typically, the field lab occurs in the last 3 weeks of the semester.

Textbook. Reading scientific information is not like reading a novel for pleasure at all. It is not uncommon to read sections more than once to fully get the information conveyed, even for professional scientists (actually, *especially* for professional scientists). The text should be used as a general reference throughout the course. The readings include background information useful for preparing you for lecture and studying for exams.

Exams. There will be nine exams: five mid term exams during lecture and a final, and three laboratory practical exams. Your lowest lecture exam score will be dropped and not counted in calculating your average lecture exam score. You cannot drop the final. It is counted in your final score. Each lecture exam will cover material presented since the last exam (not comprehensive). The final exam will only cover the material presented since the most recent midterm. Examinations will rely primarily on lecture material and to a lesser extent, the readings from the text. Exams will include multiple choice, True-False, matching, and short essay formats. Good answers cite evidence from lectures and the text and will strive for synthesis.

Missed exam Policy. **Exams cannot be made up. No makeup exams will be given under any circumstances*. Make your travel plans NOW as there will be NO early or late exams.** If you miss an exam, it will automatically become your “dropped exam score.” If you miss additional exams, you will get zero points for those exams.

The final exam date and time is to be announced.

Grade Calculation: There are a total of 825 points available to earn in this course:

Points will be assigned as follows:

Semester grades will be:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Lab Exercises | 150 | 742–825 points (90–100%) | = A |
| 3 Lab practical exams | 75 | 660–741 points (80–89%) | = B |
| 5 Lecture exams | 400 | 577–659 points (70–79%) | = C |
| Final Lecture exam | 100 | 495–576 points (60–69%) | = D |
| <u>Field trip report</u> | <u>100</u> | Less than 495 points | = F |
| Total | 825 | | |

If you want a guarantee that you get an A, show up at the end of the course with at least 742 points (=90% of 825 points), end of discussion.

*Make up exams will be given only in the event of a documented illness or approved university absence.

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA): With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act - (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me at the beginning of the semester. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodation” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Your responsibility is to inform me of the disability at the beginning of the semester and provide me with documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. Student support services at Delta College include Disabled Student Programs and Service (located in Cunningham 120), Learning Disabilities (Cunningham 237) and Mobility/Health Service (Danner 109). DSP&S is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities.

Student Support Services: Delta College supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the College and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact Guidance & Counseling Services in Danner 205 or phone 209-954-5650 for more information and appropriate referrals. The Science and Math Tutor Center is located in Shima 217.

Professional Conduct: I will work hard to make this a course from which you can learn much and develop important skills. I welcome suggestions from you at anytime about things you think could be done to improve the course. In return, I ask that you arrive at lecture on time and stay until class is over without making unnecessary noise that could distract your classmates.

Personal crises do happen. If you are having difficulties that are interfering with your ability to do well in this class, please tell me as soon as possible. I may be able to refer to you to someone for special help or make special arrangements if the need is real **and you have done your best to deal with the situation in a timely manner.** I promise to respect you as students and as individuals, and ask that you return that respect to me and your classmates.

Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form at San Joaquin Delta College. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with College regulations and procedures. Discipline may include, but is not limited to, the removal, suspension, or expulsion from the College. Procedures are available through the college catalog, the Student Handbook, or on the Internet (www.deltacollege.edu/div/stuserv/policy-5500/standards-conduct.html)

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Important Dates:

Monday, January 28st, Refund Date
Monday, January 21st, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, February 4th, Census Date
Friday, February 8th, Last Drop No Penalty Date
Friday, February 15th, Lincoln's Birthday
Monday, February 18th, Washington's Birthday
Spring Recess: 17—21 March
Monday, March 31st, Cesar Chavez's Day
Tuesday, April 28th, Last Drop Date
Thursday and Friday, November 22 & 23, (Holiday, Thanksgiving)
Tuesday, May 20th, Last day of instruction
Wednesday through Thursday, May 21–29, Final Examination Week
Thursday, May 29th, Commencement

PLEASE NOTE

YOUR INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS IN THE OPERATION OF THE COURSE OR THE VALUE OF ASSIGNMENTS THAT IN HIS PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT ARE WARRANTED TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS.