

BIO1030: BIOLOGY TODAY

- Winter 2008 -

Instructors:

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- Dr. Moti Nissani (February 27-April 29, 2008). Office hours: by appt.
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→ The format of the class is lectures on Mondays and Wednesdays, followed by discussions on Fridays. Hence, this is only a tentative syllabus that may be modified depending on students' interests.

Time & Location: M, W, F, 10:40-11:35, 150 General Lectures Hall

Date	Topic	Assigned Readings
Jan. 7, 9, 11	Why biology and what is science?	<i>Essential Biology</i> , Ch. 1, pp. 1-19
Jan. 14, 16, 18	Molecular biology of the gene	Ch. 10 -- Molecular biology of the gene (pp.171-190).
Jan. 21	Holiday	
Jan. 23, 25	Natural selection in action: HIV	Ch. 10 – Molecular biology of the gene (pp. 171; 190-192).
Jan. 28, 30 Feb. 1	Understanding evolution: What did Darwin really say?	<i>Origins of Species</i> , Chs. 1-4 Ch. 13: pp. 244-249
Feb. 4, 6, 8	How populations evolve?	Ch. 13: pp. 249-?
Feb. 11, 13, 15	How biological diversity evolves?	Ch. 14: pp. 271-295
Feb. 18, 20, 22	Biotechnology and Society.	Material to be posted
Feb. 25	EXAM 1	
Feb 27	Microscopic World of Cells	<i>Essential Biology</i> , Ch. 4, pp. 55-59
Feb 29	Basics of Photosynthesis Environmental Impact of Photosynthesis	Ch. 7, pp. 104-110 Ch. 714-716
Mar. 3, 5, 7	Patterns of Inheritance	Ch. 9, pp. 143-155
Mar. 10-14	Spring Break	
Mar. 17, 19, 21	Patterns of Inheritance	Ch. 9, pp. 156-170
Mar. 24, 26, 28	DNA Technology	Ch. 12, pp. 219-232
Mar. 31	Human Population Growth	Ch. 18, pp. 393-396
Apr. 2, 4	Human Impact on the Environment	Ch. 20, pp. 439-462
Apr. 7, 9, 11	Climate Change: An Interdisciplinary Perspective	Material to be posted
Apr. 14, 16, 18	Animals Cognition: Do Chimpanzees, Dolphins, and Elephants Think?	Material to be posted
Apr. 21	EXAM 2	
Apr. 29	MAKE-UP EXAMS 8:00 – 10:30 am	

Texts: 1. Campbell, Reece, & Simon (2007). *Essential Biology*.

2. Darwin, Charles. *Origin of Species*, 1st edition, Chs. 1-4 (available online at: <http://www.talkorigins.org/faqs/origin.html>)

3. Additional online materials.

Grading: Your grade will be determined by two midterms (50% each). If you miss a midterm, you can take it as a make-up on April 29 (see below). Also, on April 29 you may re-take one midterm for a higher grade.

Grades will be determined on the basis of the following scale: 90%+ = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 59% or less = F. Each exam will be scaled relative to the second highest score for the entire class. For example, if the highest score is 98% and the second highest is 95%, the cutoff point for A will be 85.5% of the total score (90% of 95), and a B would be between 76% and 85.5%. Exams will be destroyed at the end of the semester, hence any questions should be raised immediately after the scores for each exam have been posted.

To reiterate, there will be no make-up exams during the semester – even in cases involving medical emergencies. The only make-up date is April 29, 2008. Students who miss two exams must withdraw from the course or receive a letter grade of F.

Cheating Policy: A student found to be cheating during an exam or quiz (e.g., using a “cheat sheet”, looking at another student’s paper or sharing information with others, consulting cell phones, laptops, notes, books) will receive a zero for that test and will forfeit the option of dropping the class or re-taking that test. A second episode of cheating will result in a grade of F for the course and the initiation of university disciplinary action.

Add/Drop/Incomplete Policy: Add forms will not be signed after the second week of class. Please note that “**incomplete**” grades will not be issued to students in poor standing who are seeking an alternative to a late drop.

General Education Requirements: Wayne State is committed to imparting well-rounded education to all its undergraduates. To achieve this goal, the university created a set of requirements (e.g., mathematical proficiency, a minimum of one writing course) that must be met by each undergraduate. ISP 4760 satisfies the *life-sciences* requirement.

Policy on Course Conduct

- ❖ No one has to agree with anyone about anything, but we are going to treat everyone in this classroom, and their views, with dignity, respect, and an open mind.
- ❖ No cell phones may be used in the classroom. If you need a cell phone for emergencies, put it on “vibrate” or a similar feature and either answer during breaks or leave the room to respond.
- ❖ Be considerate of others by placing all trash in appropriate containers and by not carrying on conversations during class.

Academic Success Center (2100 UG Library, 313.577.3165): This center provides tutoring and supplemental instruction and may improve your chances of doing well in college.

Special Needs Students: If you are disabled, we shall be eager and happy to help you in any way we can. In addition, the Office of Educational Accessibility Services serves as an advocate for disabled students and helps to secure accommodations. The Office is at the Student Center Building, Room 583, phone: 313-577-1851; Voice: 313-577-3365 (TTY).

University-Wide Class Cancellation Policy: If you suspect that a class may be cancelled (e.g., a snow storm, grade-5 hurricane, nuclear war) call 313-577-5345 or consult major radio and television stations).