

BIOL 10000- Introduction to the Biological World

Welcome!

Welcome to your Introduction to the Biological World! I'm so happy you're here!

Please review this syllabus carefully. You will find a lot of information regarding our class in it. In reading the syllabus, you can prepare yourself for the class before it begins and throughout the semester, which will help you succeed! Just a reminder- This class is conducted entirely online. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have access to internet in order to complete the requirements for class.

Instructor

Email:

Office Hours:

About Me:

Course Description

Principles of biological organization from molecules through ecosystems. Emphasis on processes common to all organisms and on concepts related to problems of current importance.

Learning Objectives

1. Understand the process of science, the scientific method, differences in scientific and nonscientific explanations, and how science is commonly used in your everyday life.
2. Understand that all life is composed of cells that define the structure and function of living organisms.
3. Explain how genetic information translates into organismal development and behavior and drives the diversity of life.
4. Understand the various theories and evidence for the origin of life and evolution.
5. Know that all ecosystems are interconnected and interact with one another.
6. Understand the basic principles of animal development and the different systems within an animal

Resources Provided and What You'll Need

- **You get a FREE online copy of the textbook!** "Campbell: Essential Biology with Physiology, 6th Edition". Authors: Simon, Dickey, Hogan, and Reece. ISBN10: 0321967674. If you prefer a physical copy, you can purchase or rent through the bookstore.
- **Brightspace:** You will sign in using your normal PFW username and password. The entire class is run through Brightspace, so please make sure you are able to access site. I will post a START HERE video that will act as a tour guide to explain how our course is organized. If you have trouble finding something in our class, please ask me- I will be happy to help. However, if it is a technical issue, please contact Information Technology Services (helpdesk@pfw.edu; 260-481-6030; Kettler 206) immediately.

- **Pearson Mastering Biology:** Pearson Mastering will be located through links within Brightspace. It is an online program that will host the electronic copy of your textbook, online homework assignments, and will provide you with valuable study tools. Both homework assignments and study tools come in multi-media formats, allowing students with various types of learning styles to learn course concepts. You do **not** have to actively purchase or register for this program, it comes with your registration fee for the course.

Grading

Grading Scale (FWCS)

A+	98-100
A	93-97
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	0-59

Unit Checklists: Each unit I will provide a checklist that includes all of the requirements for that unit. It tells you the due dates, amount of time it should take you to complete, and the amount of points it is worth. I HIGHLY recommend you using these to ensure you don't miss any assignments!

Unit Exams & Unit Quizzes: There will be 4 traditional tests each worth 100 points (60% of total Grade). Exams will consist of 50 multiple choice questions, and you will have the class period to complete it. Your time begins as soon as you start the exam. Check the course calendar or checklist for the dates and times exams open and close. Any time during the "open time" you may take your exam 1 time.

There will also be 4 unit quizzes, each worth 25 points (15% of total grade), conducted throughout the semester. Unit quizzes will consist of 25 multiple choice questions, and you will have 20 minutes to complete it. Your time begins as soon as you start the quiz. Check the course calendar or checklist for the dates and times unit quizzes open and close. Any time during the "open time" you may take your quiz 1 time.

Unit exams and quizzes will be conducted through the course's Brightspace page. If you miss the exam or quiz during the open window, you may ask for me to reopen it for you. Keep in mind that for each day late you will lose 10%. So, if the quiz was due on a Tuesday and you email on a Thursday, the highest you can get on that quiz or exam is an 80%. However, **there will be no make ups for exam 4**. The only exception is if you have a university- authorized excuse such as a University-authorized activity, illness (**only if doctor's note is provided**), death in the

immediate family, and legal proceedings requiring the student's presence etc. All excuses should be presented to me prior to the test date, if at all possible.

Lecture Quizzes: A total of 75 points (10% of total grade) will be taken after watching Lecture videos. These quizzes are open-book. There is a total of 10 lecture quizzes for unit 1, 11 for unit 2, 6 for unit 3, and 9 for unit 4. These quizzes are not timed, and are open for the entirety of the unit. These are not meant to be hard, but instead help you understand the main points of the lecture. Also, they are provided to help you get a sense for what future quiz and exam questions may look like 😊. All quizzes are multiple choice and most are only 1-2 questions.

Student Expectations of the Instructor

• **Availability:** The best to contact me is through email. While I do check my email regularly, I ask that you give me 24-48 hours (on weekdays) to reply. I may send a reply email after normal work hours (8-5), however, do not expect this every time. I do like to make sure to reply so you don't have to worry! Sometimes I will reply just saying I got your email and you can expect my answer the following day. Communication is important to me especially with this being an online course. Remember, communication does go both ways!

General Rules:

1. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the next class period unless otherwise stated and are entered as formative assignments.
2. You will be given time in class to work on assignments that are due the next day.
3. Homework assignments are graded on completion. Biology can be difficult, and you are expected to attempt all problems (not necessarily to master them the first time).
4. Complete assignments will be given 10/10 points. Assignments with 75% or more completion will be given 8/10 points. Late assignments (75% complete or less when due) will be given 5/10 points.
5. If you are absent from class for any reason, please go to our class Schoology page. All assignments, presentations, labs, etc. are posted every day.
6. Labs will be graded for completion AND correctness and will be entered as summative assignments.
7. Tests and quizzes are also summative assignments. Quizzes may be retaken; tests may not. Please work on mastering the content on quizzes before the test.
8. **Grades** are calculated as 20% formative (homework) and 80% summative (labs, quizzes and tests)
9. **Academic honesty** is expected of all students. Please be aware of what behaviors constitute academic misconduct (See Bulletin, Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct Part II. A.)
10. **Special Needs:** Purdue Fort Wayne is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and access to programs and services to persons with disabilities.
11. **Civility and Ground Rules:** "Common sense and courtesy" are the underlying principles for civility and ground rules in our course. If not followed according to the

rules and expectations of Purdue Fort Wayne policies, student codes and ethical requirements for use of computer technology, disciplinary actions can be taken which may include removal from class.

12.Diversity and Nondiscrimination: The university believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchanges of ideas, and enriches campus life. Respect and civility should therefore be afforded to all individuals regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, etc.

Tips for Success:

- Ask Questions! You probably won't understand most of the material at first. - Do the homework in class! I will give you time to work; use it.
- Retake quizzes to develop mastery of ideas and skills! You cannot retake the tests, so it is best to go into a test feeling confident.
- Enjoy the labs! Biology is best learned by doing.