



NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYVILLE | KANSAS CITY

Department of Natural Sciences

General Biology (lecture)

BIOL 04102 , 48 contact hours , 3 credit hours

5-Week Summer Session

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Office Hours: By appointment

Textbook and supplementary materials: Eric J. Simon, *Biology the Core 2nd ed.*, Pearson Publishing, 2016.

Course Description: A general course in biology providing a broad understanding of the basic principles of biological science such as cells, energy production, photosynthesis, genetics, plant and animal physiology, ecology, environmental issues, and diversity. Upon completion, students will understand the relationship between living organisms and their environment and make more informed decisions regarding issues facing our society.

Northwest Core Competencies:

1. Critical Thinking
 - a. Assimilate, retain, and interpret information
2. Managing Information
 - a. Evaluate information for currency, usefulness, and accuracy
3. Valuing
 - a. Evaluate the difference between true and false beliefs, right and wrong actions, as well as those values that underlie artistic expression and make appropriate decisions based on these values.

Assessment methods:

- a. Final Grade
- a. Written Summary
- a. Final Exam

Student learning outcomes

1. Students will evaluate scientific conclusions, explanations, and models using logic, evidence, and supporting data.
2. Students will utilize learned knowledge to make informed decisions.
3. Students will identify the impact of science and technology on society.
4. Students will describe the concepts of the nature, organization, and evolution of living systems.

Assessment methods:

1. Competency Exam
2. Competency Exam
3. Competency Exam
4. Competency Exam

Course outline/major topics studied:

Unit	Topics
	Introduction to Science of Life



	The Cell
	Chemistry of Life (a)
	Energy and Life
	DNA: The Molecule of Life
	Chromosomes and Inheritance (
	Darwinian Evolution
	Hardy-Weinberg Calculations
	Biodiversity 1: Microscopic Organisms
	Biodiversity 2: Fungi and Plants
	Photosynthesis
	Biodiversity 3: Animals
	Ecology

Instructional Methods: This course will be delivered fully online, and all instructional methods and assessments outlined as follows will be adapted to this format on Canvas. This course will be taught as a lecture with some in class activities such as discussion, videos, and the use of models, as well as filling in the necessary parts of PowerPoints.

Graded Course Requirements: While exam and quiz grades are not the ultimate measure of your knowledge of biology, they are an important way to monitor your performance in the class. Students will be graded as individuals and NOT against a curve. Grades will be based on the four in class exams, the two final exam scores (final chapter exam PLUS competency exam), one short paper, weekly online quizzes and any other quizzes given during class. I may give quizzes during the session as I deem necessary and for attendance purposes. The point distribution below will be adjusted as needed when the number of quizzes has been determined.

1. **Quizzes**

2. **Exams**

Make-up Exams and quizzes will only be given for absences that are documented and excused.

3. **Review Papers**

Assessment	Points
Four exams	400 points
Final Exam and Department Exam	100 and 40 points
Paper	30 points
Quizzes	230 points (Approximately)
Total Points	800 points (790 with dropped low quiz)

Grading Scale: based on % of 790 (approximately) points

Percentage of Possible Points	Letter Grade
100 – 90 %	A
89.99 – 80 %	B
79.99 – 70 %	C
69.99 – 60 %	D



59.99 – 0 %	F
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Letter grades are adjusted, if needed, due to lack of attendance

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes as specified in the course syllabi for each course. It is the responsibility of the student to promptly notify his or her instructor when unable to attend class. Please refer to the university policy on attendance at <https://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Attendance.pdf>

Final exams: If an emergency occurs that prevents the administration of a course scheduled final examination, the final course grades will be calculated based on the work in the course completed to that point in time and the faculty member's considered judgment. Final exams will not be rescheduled, and a grade of "I" will not be given as a result of an institutional cancellation of a final examination. This final exam policy does not apply to online courses.

Administrative drop: An instructor may request the Office of the Registrar delete a student from a course roster if the student has not met the prerequisite for the course as stated in the catalog, or as a result of non-attendance in the course.

University communications: Students are expected to use their Northwest student email account for any electronic correspondence within the university. Students are also strongly advised to check their email and CatPAWS accounts on a regular basis.

Academic integrity policy: The students, faculty, and staff at Northwest endeavor to sustain an environment that values honesty in academic work, that acknowledges the authorized aid provided by and intellectual contributions of others, and that enables equitable student evaluation. Please refer to Northwest Missouri State University's Academic Integrity Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Academic-Integrity.pdf>

Non-discrimination and anti-harassment policy: Northwest Missouri State University is committed to maintaining an environment for all faculty, staff, students, and third parties that is free of illegal discrimination and harassment. Please refer to the Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/diversity/titlevi.htm>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) policy: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (commonly known as the Buckley Amendment), is a federal law which provides that colleges and universities will maintain the confidentiality of student education records. Please refer to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Policy at <http://www.nwmissouri.edu/policies/academics/Family-Educational-Rights-and-Privacy-Act.pdf>