

BIO 1408 (4:3:3)

General Biology for Non-Science Majors I

Department of Biology

Division of Arts and Sciences

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

Levelland Campus

Dr. Eric Niederhauser

Fall 2021

Course Information
Biology I for Non-Science Majors (BIOL 1408)
Fall 2021

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Eric Niederhauser

OFFICE PHONE: 806 716-2321

EMAIL: eniederhauser@southplainscollege.edu. Please include the course number (1408) and section number in the subject. I teach a few courses and the answer to your question will likely depend on what course you are in. I generally try to respond promptly to emails. Evening or Saturday response times may be delayed. I respond to emails received on Sundays on Monday.

OFFICE HOURS: Mon: 9:30 – Noon and 2:30 - 3:30; Tue 9:30 – Noon; Friday: 9:00 – 11:00. Or by appointment. These can be in person or online. To set up an online visit send me an email.

Course Description: This general biology course is devoted to exploring the properties, structures and functions shared by all organisms with an emphasis on humans. These properties involve: cells, chemistry, energy, genetics, evolution, and interactions. We will also learn about science and the process of scientific discovery.

Course Implementation:

PREREQUISITE: None. CREDIT: Four semester hours

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Campbell, *Essential Biology with Physiology*, 6th Ed. by Simon, et al.

REQUIRED LAB MANUAL: Download from Blackboard and print. You must bring it to lab.

Blackboard: Current grades, course information, lecture notes, links etc. will be available on Blackboard, accessed through <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>. You are responsible for checking Blackboard regularly.

Email: I may send emails to your SPC email address periodically throughout the semester. You are responsible for any information that is sent to your SPC email by me or the college, so please check it regularly.

Grading

EXAMS: There will be five exams given during the semester covering both lecture and lab. One exam will be online. The exams will be announced in advance and primarily cover lecture material but may include information from lab. The exams will be primarily multiple choice but will include fill-in-the blank, short answer or essay questions. The final exam will be comprehensive.

Missed exams: If you know in advance that you will be absent on an exam date, notify me ahead of time, it MAY be possible to take the exam at an alternate time. If you unexpectedly miss an exam and do not contact me within 24 hours, I will not consider a makeup exam. Failure to notify the instructor will result in a zero for the exam.

IN-CLASS QUIZZES: There will be quizzes at the beginning of most classes. If you are late for class you will receive a zero for that day's quiz. There will be no in-class quiz makeups but at least three of the lowest in-class quiz grades will be dropped. Quizzes will use a remote clicker system.

ASSIGNMENTS: Graded assignments may be assigned. I will not accept them late.

LAB GRADES: Based on lab assignments.

GRADING SUMMARY

Grade Type	Percentage of Grade
Exams	60 %
In-Class Quizzes	20 %
Lab Grades/Assignments	20 %

Grading scale: Final semester average 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; <60 = F.

Last Day to Drop the Course: Dec 2, 2021

Policies, Procedures and Rules

This course will be conducted according to the policies and procedures of the South Plains College Student Handbook and General Catalog.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is mandatory. Students are responsible for all information discussed during absences from class - regardless of the reason. When unavoidable situations such as illness, weather, an official college trip, or a death in the family causes one absence it is not necessary to let the instructor know. If more than one absence is expected, it is polite to let me know.

When absences become excessive and, in the opinion of the instructor, minimum course objectives cannot be met, the student will be withdrawn from the course. Any student with 5 absences or tardies (to lecture and/or lab), or 4 consecutive absences will be withdrawn from the class.

Once a week, class meetings consist of lecture period AND a lab period; consequently, being absent from either class OR LAB will count as an absence.

If something extraordinary arises during the semester, I will certainly take this into consideration and some exception to the attendance policy may be made. If you intend to withdraw from the course, please see me and officially withdraw. Do not just stop coming to class. Please meet with the instructor should problems arise.

A student who does not attend a class by the 12th day of classes will automatically be deleted from the class rolls.

COVID 19: If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

To be excused from attendance requirements, please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376.

Tardy Policy: Arriving to class late is disruptive. If you are late, please come in quickly and quietly take your seat. You will not receive credit for the quiz questions missed. A student who is consistently tardy will be dropped from the class. If you are tardy please see the instructor after class to ensure you were noted as present. See me if there is a problem or if you know you will be late.

Classroom Conduct: To create an effective learning environment, respect must be shown to your fellow students and to the instructor. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated.

Disruptive and disrespectful behavior includes:

- Cell phone use. **Cell Phone use is not permitted.** Cell phones should be out of sight in lecture and lab. Do not text during class or lab, or leave class or lab to answer phone calls.
- Use of other electronic devices including laptops. Not only is this distracting, but research shows that taking notes by hand is more effective. I reserve the right to allow laptop use on an individual basis.
- Leaving class during lecture. **If you will need to leave early let me know.**
- Sleeping in class or lab.
- Eating in lab. Discrete food consumption in lecture is tolerated.
- Failure to follow general instructions.
- Talking out of turn, cursing, inappropriate gestures etc.

You will receive a zero for that day's quiz for disruptive behavior and may be asked to leave the classroom. If the poor behavior is deemed excessive the student may be withdrawn from the course.

Academic Integrity: The attempt of any student to cheat or present as her/his own any work, which she/he has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

Examples of cheating and dishonesty include (but are not limited to): plagiarism, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes or texts during an examination or quiz, obtaining information during an exam from the exam paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office.

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

Privacy: The federal law guaranteeing student privacy is the policy of this professor as well as that of SPC. This means that I will not discuss your grade with anyone other than you. I will NOT discuss your grade with your parents, guardians, friends, etc.

Lab Safety: Each student will be informed/trained on the “Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) for Laboratories at South Plains College” during the first week of the semester. Each student will be required to acknowledge receipt of this information and be required to follow all procedures outlined by the instructor and/or staff of South Plains College.

Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS): These data sheets detail any potential hazards associated with the chemicals used in the laboratory. The MSDS notebook is located in room 146 of the science building. All students are encouraged to read about the chemicals used in the lab in the MSDS notebook. Please ask the instructor if you need assistance.

Non-Discrimination Statement: South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

Campus Concealed Carry - Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the SPC policy at: http://www.southplainscollege.edu/human_resources/policy_procedure/hhc.php Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

Resources for help: My goal is your success. If you have any questions or concerns, ASK ME! Please! Anything that affects your performance as a student is important to me and South Plains College. We will do everything we can to support you and help you succeed.

Specific places to seek help depend on the factors that are affecting your performance:

ACADEMIC: Instructor, Tutors, Learning Center - 3rd floor library building.

PERSONAL: Health & Wellness Center (8 free counseling appointments per year).

HEALTH: Student Health Clinic (free for students with 6 or more credit hours).

Niederhauser General Weekly Schedule

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
8 am	1408 001 S80	1406 Lecture S83	1408 001 S80	1406 004 S83	
9	Office Hours	Office Hours	1408 001 LAB	1406 004 LAB	Office Hours
10			S189	S197	
11					
12 pm					
1	1408 002 S80		1408 002 S80		
2	Office Hours		1408 002 Lab		
3			S189		
4					
5					

1408 Fall 2021 Lecture Schedule				Laboratory Schedule		
Unit	Meeting #	Date	Topic	Week	Topic	
Introduction, Building Blocks of Life	1	Mon, Aug 30	Welcome/Intro - What is Life?	1	Safety / Microscopes / Discovery Science	
	2	Wed, Sep 1	Life Organized/Chemistry for Biology			
		Mon, Sep 6	Labor Day	2	Metric System/ Data Analysis	
	3	Wed, Sep 8	Chemistry for Biology			
	4	Mon, Sep 13	Molecules of Life: Carbs, Lipids	3	Experimental Design/ Daphnia on Drugs	
	5	Wed, Sep 15	Molecules of Life: Protein, DNA			
	6	Mon, Sep 20	Cell Structure			
	7	Wed, Sep 22	Catch Up and Review			
		8	Mon, Sep 27	EXAM 1	4	Organic Molecules
		9	Wed, Sep 29	Cell Division (Mitosis)		
The Working Cell	10	Mon, Oct 4	Cell at Work - Energy and Enzymes	5	Cells/Mitosis	
	11	Wed, Oct 6	Cellular Respiration			
	12	Mon, Oct 11	Photosynthesis	6	Diffusion and Osmosis	
	13	Wed, Oct 13	Carbon and Energy in Ecosystems			
		14	Mon, Oct 18	EXAM 2	7	Respiration/ Photosynthesis
		15	Wed, Oct 20	Meiosis		
		16	Mon, Oct 25	Patterns of Inheritance Mendel		
Genetics	17	Wed, Oct 27	Inheritance - Beyond Mendel	8	Mitosis vs Meiosis	
	18	Mon, Nov 1	Structure of DNA			
DNA	19	Wed, Nov 3	Function of DNA/Viruses/Mutation	9	Drosophila Start/ Genetic Problems	
	20	Mon, Nov 8	How Genes are Controlled			
	21	Wed, Nov 10	Cloning/Gene Cancer	10	DNA Structure/Protein Synthesis/Karyotypes	
	22	Mon, Nov 15	DNA Technology			
	23	Wed, Nov 17	DNA Technology Applications	11	Drosophila Count	
	24	Mon, Nov 22	EXAM 4			
		25	Wed, Nov 24	Evolution by Natural Selection	12	Genes in a Bottle/ Micropipette Use
		26	Mon, Nov 29	Evolution Evidence		
	Evolution/ Ecology	27	Wed, Dec 1	Thanksgiving Break	13	DNA Fingerprinting
		28	Mon, Dec 6	Ecology Case study		
29		Wed, Dec 8	Wrap up and Semester Review	14	No Lab	
		Dec 13-16	Final EXAM			
					15	Natural Selection
					No Lab	

Exam 3 Genetics. Online. Opens Friday Oct 29, 8 am. Closes Sunday Oct 31 11:59 pm