

BIOL 1107K - Principles of Biology I Fall Semester, 2018

Combined Sections Lecture: M, W, F 12:00 - 12:50 pm Room 1011 Bailey Science

Sections:

M: CRN 81973	Lab meets Tuesday 9:30 - 12:20	Room 1085	Dr. Jonghoon Kang Instructor
N: CRN 81974	Lab meets Tuesday 2:00 - 4:50	Room 1085	Dr. Jonghoon Kang Instructor
O: CRN 81975	Lab meets Friday 9:00 - 11:50	Room 1085	Dr. Brian Ring Instructor
P: CRN 81976	Lab meets Tuesday 9:30 - 12:20	Room 1083	Dr. John Elder Instructor
Q: CRN 81977	Lab meets Tuesday 2:00 - 4:50	Room 1083	Dr. John Elder Instructor
R: CRN 81978	Lab meets Wednesday 9:00-11:50	Room 1085	Dr. Brian Ring Instructor

Lecture Instructor: Dr. John Elder

Office: Bailey Science Center 2088

Office hours: M, W, F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., or by appointment

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Email: jfelder@valdosta.edu

Welcome to Principles of Biology I. This is the first course in a series designed to help you develop a strong foundation in the biological sciences to build on throughout your studies at VSU and beyond.

BIOL 1107 Course Description. An introduction to the principles of biology for science majors, with an emphasis on the cellular nature of life. Concepts covered include the origin and early evolution of cellular life; cell structure, function, metabolism, and reproduction; cell signaling; and gene regulation in bacteria and eukaryotes.

Course Objectives: The goal of this course is to stimulate student learning of these basic concepts and to encourage contemplation of the significance of each concept to the general field of biology.

Course Outcomes: At the end of this course students should be able to: Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions, Exhibit an understanding of basic biological chemistry, Describe the evolutionary processes responsible for biological diversity, explain the phylogenetic relationships among the major taxa of life, and provide examples, and to Demonstrate an understanding of the cellular basis of life.

Required Materials:

Text: Sadava, D., D.M. Hillis, H.C. Heller, and M.R Berenbaum. 2016. *Life: The Science of Biology*. 11 th edition. Sinauer Associates Inc., Sunderland, MA.

There are three versions of the text book that students may choose to purchase (purchase just one!). Just be sure to choose a version with “LaunchPad” access:

<https://www.macmillanlearning.com/Catalog/product/lifethescienceofbiology-eleventhditionsadava/valueoptions#tab>

Note: There is a **GRADED component** to this course using the interactive quizzing software available through the publisher’s **LaunchPad web page** (Go to <http://www.macmillanhighered.com/launchpad/life11e/7929699>).

Laboratory Manual: Goddard, R.H. 2011. *Methods and Investigations in Basic Biology*, 6th ed. Hayden-McNeil Publishing, Plymouth, MI.

“Clickers or Responseware”: Each student is required to obtain a Turning Technologies NXT clicker
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(available in the bookstore) **or** a Turning Technologies License and a Response Ware App from Google store (preferred). All students are responsible for having their clickers with them in class. Points accumulated during lecture and attendance records are generated by clickers. If you do not bring your clicker, no points will be recorded for your participation. **No quiz grade make ups are allowed or excused**☺.

Clicker, Responseware and Turningpoint registration info is posted at: **Blazeview site for this class** and at <http://www.valdosta.edu/distance/clickers/index.shtml>. Help with the clickers and registration is available for Turning Technologies and in the eLearning office (back behind the Help Desk in the library) and may be available to address issues students are having with clickers.

Grade Assessment: Your final grade will be based on your performance on lecture assignments, quizzes, examinations and the laboratory. Additional unannounced research and writing assignments may be assigned to count toward the final grade during the semester. Please read, sign and return provided description of grading for the course.

Lecture:

Exams. There will be three lecture exams followed by a cumulative final. Students are required to learn the lecture material and the readings from the text in detail for all exams. Related information presented in the laboratory may also be included in exams. Exam format will be specified by your instructor. The unit exams are not cumulative. Each of the unit exams and the cumulative final exam will be worth 100 points each. The final exam will be taken during the allotted time published online and posted below. **There are NO MAKEUP EXAMS**, with the exception of those students with a University related excuse or an emergency. Otherwise, a missed exam will be equal to zero points.

Launchpad assignments: Exercises and summary quizzes will be assigned for each chapter covered. These assignments will have a deadline and must be completed before the relevant lecture. No points will be given for assignments completed after assigned deadlines.

Lecture quizzes: There will be many (assume daily) intermittent short “clicker” quizzes on the readings and lecture given at the end of lecture.

Overall Launchpad and lecture quiz grades will be weighted evenly (50% each) and averaged for a score worth the equivalent to 1 test grade. Note this does **not** mean one test grade is dropped. Assume there will be a quiz every lecture.

Lab: Lab performance will be worth 25% of the overall 1107 class average grade.

Overall Class Grade Assessment: You will receive one final grade for 1107 lecture and lab combined worth 4 credit hours.

Calculate your overall grade as follows:

(Lab average grade X .25) + (4 lecture exam grades + 1 quiz-launchpad average grade/5 X .75) = Overall percentage grade.

Overall letter grades will be assigned on a 10 point scale: 90-100% = A, 80-90% = B, 70-80% = C, 60-70% = D, and, 59 % and below = F.

Laboratory:

Students will be graded on their performance in laboratory based on attendance, quiz grades, group lab projects, selected homework assignments, and other assignments **as specified by your instructor**. Each lab instructor is free to give assignments and grade scores as they see fit. The final lab average from each instructor is averaged into your overall 1107 score weighted at 25%.

Lab Attendance and active participation is mandatory. Department policy is that anyone missing three labs will fail lab and receive a mandatory, maximum D grade for the entire 1107 class. There are NO MAKEUP LABS.

COMMUNICATION:

Email: Email is the simplest and primary way to contact me outside of class and is the quickest way for me to contact you as well. All email should be sent directly to jfelder@valdosta.edu. You are required to check and maintain your Valdosta State University email account. I will only communicate with you through this official email account. Do NOT email using the Blazeview system.

Blazeview: We will be using Blazeview throughout the semester as a tool for sharing class and grade information. I will post course **tentative grades** as well as any necessary **class materials and announcements**. It is the student's responsibility to routinely check Blazeview for posted announcements and to review grades as they are reported. All official course information is located on Blazeview and students are expected to regularly access the Blazeview website. "I didn't know" will not be an accepted excuse for missing dates, deadlines or errors.

Note that I use the Blazeview site grade sheet **only to report tentative grades** to you. I do not use it to actually calculate final grades. I use a separate spreadsheet.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: You are expected to attend all scheduled course activities, and active participation is part of your course grade. Because of the nature and structure of the class, attendance is vital to your success in the course. The student is responsible for all material and assignments missed regardless of the reason for absences. We will strictly adhere to **VSU's policy** on attendance which states: "A student who **misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes of a course will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course**" (Undergraduate Catalog). **Also note that the instructor is required to file the last date of attendance for any student failing the course. This information is used by financial aid authorities to assess potential payback of aid funds.**

BIOLOGY TUTORING: The **Student Success Center (SSC)** at Valdosta State University is located in **Langdale Residence Hall above the Tech Shop** and is available to all students. The SSC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The SSC also provides free professional academic advising and on-campus job information in one location. **Call 333-7570** to make an appointment, or visit the website: www.valdosta.edu/ssc.

MID-TERM, OR IN-PROGRESS GRADES: The instructor is required to submit in-progress grades prior to mid-term. In theory, a mid-term grade is necessary for a student to assess how s/he is doing in class by midterm. In this course, students will have feedback on at least one major exam by midterm, several lab quizzes, lab assignments, and any homework or writing assignments. The instructor will, in general, assign an overall average grade at this point on the normal scale of A-F viewable on Banner. Students receiving a grade of "D" or lower should therefore carefully evaluate their option of dropping this course by midterm without academic penalty.

PRIVACY ACT (FERPA): THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) prohibits the public posting of grades by social security number or in any manner personally identifiable to the individual student. No grades can be given by email or over the telephone, as positive identification cannot be made by this manner.

ACCESS STATEMENT: Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The **Access**
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Office is located in Farbar Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871 (VP) and 229-219-1348 (TTY). For more information, please visit VSU's Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu.

TITLE IX STATEMENT: Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued, respected, and included. Valdosta State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including pregnancy status, sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations such as Title IX. The individual designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: **Maggie Viverette, Director of the Office of Social Equity**, titleix@valdosta.edu, 1208 N. Patterson St., Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31608, 229-333-5463.

Important Dates:

- August
 - 1st class: Monday 13th
- September
 - Labor day holiday Monday 3rd
 - Exam 1 Friday 7th
- October
 - Midterm last drop date Thursday 4th
 - Fall Break Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th
 - Exam 2 Friday 5th
- November
 - Thanksgiving Wednesday 21st through Friday 23rd
 - Exam 3 Friday 2
- December
 - Last Lecture Class Monday 3rd
 - Final Exam 4 Friday 7th (10:15am – 12:00pm)

Understanding Class Rules and Grading for Biology 1107, section A, Summer 2017, John Elder Instructor .

Class rules:

- L** **Disruptive behavior:** No disruptive behavior of any kind will be tolerated in this course.
- a. Students should restrict talking, questions and discussion to pertinent questions related to course material.
 - b. Entering a classroom late is discouraged.
 - c. Any student disrupting lectures will be required to leave the classroom.
 - d. Any disruptive student who refuses to leave on request will be removed by campus police.
 - e. I like a relaxed atmosphere, but respect for fellow students and instructors is required.

- II. Electronics:** Use of cellular telephones, pagers, or any similar remote communication device is prohibited during scheduled lectures, laboratories, or examinations.
- If it is essential to take an emergency, incoming call, then quietly step outside and conduct your business like an adult. Otherwise, students who bring cellular telephones or similar devices to lecture must switch them off prior to the beginning of the lecture period.
 - Phones may not be used as calculators on exams.
 - Lecture notes may not be photographed or recorded with phone or computer cameras.
 - The penalty for using a phone to text, talk, record lecture notes or during an exam is failure of the course.
 - No electronic devices (including cell phones), books, or notebooks will be allowed during exams. Students using such items will be asked to leave and will receive a zero for the exam.
 - Laptop computers can be used for note taking during lecture; however, students using them must sit in the first four rows of the classroom. Anyone caught cruising the net instead of taking notes will receive a failing grade for the course.

III. Cheating: Students caught cheating will receive a grade of “F” for the assignment in question and possibly for the course. Cheating will be reported to the Dean of Students. See your Student handbook for what constitutes catalogue cheating and plagiarism.

IV. Procedure for exams and quizzes:

- You must be on time. Students arriving more than 10 minute late may not take the exam and will receive a grade of zero.
- No talking will be allowed during the exam, however students are welcome to come to the instructor’s desk to ask questions about clarification of questions on the exam.
- Each student will be given an exam to be completed and handed back to the instructor.
- You must bring a pencil and will take the exam during the stated lecture time only.
- No electronic devices or aids are allowed during exams. Use constitutes cheating and will result in dismissal and failure of the course.
- A student with more than a single clicker in their possession during any lecture class or exam constitutes cheating by the owners of the clickers and the person in possession of the clickers. This also constitutes cheating and will result in dismissal and failure of the course.
- No make up exams are given except in documented emergency situations. Do not miss exams.
- Every student should bring their University ID.
- You will have the class time only to complete each lecture exam.
- During examinations, students may be asked to display their VSU student identification cards visibly on the desk top and to make them available for inspection by their instructor and/or assistants.

V. Understand class expectations:

- I understand that this is a science class and that my enrollment is voluntary. I am **here to learn the science** and I am free to drop the course if I do not wish to learn the material.
 - Biology is a science – it is hard for many people.
 - As is true for any scientific discipline, the study of biology requires a large body of highly

- detailed and technical information that must be mastered.
- iii. Biology, as is true for any science, has a large amount of technical terminology that must be mastered.
 - iv. It is not sufficient to simply “memorize” the facts and terminology, but one must also understand the many concepts relevant to modern biology.
- b. I understand that my **grades are based solely upon my level of performance**, not on what I may want or think I need.
 - i. Students do not get a grade simply by attending.
 - ii. Students must work at achieving their desired grade.
 - iii. Work means putting in significant amounts of study time. Many hours repeatedly going over the material.
 - iv. Goofing off and poor attendance usually means failing the course.
 - c. It is my responsibility to understand or seek out clarification for any assignments or requirements for this class. I did not understand is **NOT** an excuse.
 - i. That includes registering my response device in a proper and timely manner. No allowance will be made for not having a properly registered, active device.
 - ii. That includes being on time.
 - iii. That includes being responsible for **ALL** class materials.
 - iv. That includes routinely checking grades on Blazeview and reporting any possible errors in a timely fashion.
 - d. I understand that the final grade I receive in this course is the grade I “**EARNED**”. The instructor does not “**GIVE**” me a grade.
 - e. I understand that it is the instructor’s responsibility to evaluate my performance and to assign a **grade that certifies the level at which I KNOW and UNDERSTAND the course material**.
 - f. I understand that I **earn my grade by demonstrating** on assigned tests, quizzes and assignments that I **KNOW and UNDERSTAND** the course material.
 - g. I understand that it is my responsibility to **master ALL course material** to the level necessary to achieve the grade I want in this class.
 - h. I understand that the grade I receive is **NOT based** on the amount of work or effort I do. Effort is my responsibility.
 - i. I understand **that late assignments will not be accepted** and will summarily receive a grade of zero.
 - j. I understand that **incomplete work will not be accepted** and will summarily receive a grade of zero.
 - k. I understand that **work that does not follow instructions in all respects will not be accepted** and will summarily receive a grade of zero.
 - l. I understand that in the event of a **personal emergency** resulting in missed assignments it is my responsibility to contact the instructor as soon as possible. I also understand that any possible make up work is strictly at the instructor’s discretion on a case by case basis.
 - m. I understand that it is **my responsibility** to make sure I understand all assignment instructions and due dates. It is not the instructors fault if I fail to meet these expectations.
 - n. I understand that my grades are based only upon the assignments given. There are **no** opportunities for “**extra credit**” or “**additional assignments**”.
 - o. I understand that it is **my responsibility to seek additional help** from the instructor or campus tutorial services when needed.
 - p. I understand that the time to worry about my grades is all **during the term**. Grades are final after the class is over.
 - q. I understand that **no late or additional assignments will be accepted** for any reason after the course closes.
 - r. I understand that **grades are not negotiable**. Complaining or begging extra points after the fact

- are not appropriate behaviors.
- s. I understand that my **grade will be based on the criteria** detailed earlier in this syllabus and that it is my responsibility to seek clarification if it is needed.
 - t. I understand that this course will assign grades on a **10 point scale and no curve** is to be used in assigning those grades.
 - u. I understand that the instructor cannot and will not predict nor promise any grades before all scores for all assignments are done and the class is completed.
 - v. I understand that the instructor will only discuss my final grade for purposes of explanation or correction of a possible mistake. Discussions about disappointment with grades, complaints about grades, grade changes or general whining about poor performance will not be entertained.

From the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs:

Examples of Disruptive Behaviors that Might Best Be Addressed by the Professor in the Classroom

- Taking/making calls, texting, using smart phones for social media, etc.
- Students misuse of technology in the classroom. Sneaking text messages from beneath the desk or having a laptop open to Facebook™ or other social media site during a lecture.
- Frequent interruption of professor while talking and asking of non-relevant, off-topic questions.
- Crosstalk or carrying on side conversations while the professor is speaking.
- Poor personal hygiene that leads to a classroom disruption or lack of focus.
- Entitled or disrespectful talk to professor or other students.
- Eating or consuming beverages in class without permission (or against the class norms).
- Reading magazines, newspapers, books, or studying for other classes/doing other homework.

Examples of Disruptive or Dangerous Behaviors that need to be Immediately Reported

- Repetitive excessive behavior after classroom management techniques are tried and failed.
- Use of alcohol or other substances in class. Attending class while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- A fixation (not just expressed in a single discussion) on comments or thoughts that may be viewed as racially or sexually charged.
- Prolonged non-verbal passive aggressive behavior such as sitting with arms crossed, glaring or staring at professor, refusal to speak or respond to questions or directives.
- Self-injurious behavior such as cutting or burning self during class, or exposing previous self-injuries.
- Bullying behavior focused on students in the classroom.
- Direct communicated threat to professor or another student.
- Physical assault such as pushing, shoving or punching.
- Throwing objects or slamming doors.
- Storming out of the classroom when upset.
- Conversations intended to upset other students such as descriptions of weapons, killing or death.
- Psychotic, delusional or rambling speech.
- Arrogant or rude talk to professor or other students.
- Objectifying language that depersonalizes the professor or other students.

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all Valdosta State University employees and students. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold the highest standard of academic integrity. Any faculty member who has documentation and/or suspects that

academic dishonesty has occurred shall (1) gather all pertinent information, and (2) meet with the student or students involved, and (3) inform the student or students of the academic response to an alleged violation of academic integrity, and (4) a faculty member should create a Report of Academic Dishonesty (RAD) to document the resolution of the matter. The faculty member should notify his/her department head and/or dean of these decisions and should submit a Report of Academic Dishonesty (RAD) along with all supporting documentation to the Student Conduct Office. An online Academic Integrity Reporting form can be found at https://publicdocs.maxient.com/reportingform.php?ValdostaStateUniv&layout_id=1.