

Contemporary Biology (BIO 134) Fall 2007

Course Explanation and Syllabus

GENERAL INFORMATION:

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Sibyl Bucheli

bucheli@shsu.edu

Room: Lee Drain Building, room 142

Office Hours: MONDAY 2-5 pm or by appointment



SECTIONS: 134.01 MWF 8:00 - 8:50 am (Lee Drain Room 214)
134.04 MWF 12:00 - 12:50 pm (Lee Drain Room 214)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: BIO 134 Contemporary Biology. [BIOL 1308]

Presentation for the non-science major of biological concepts and topical subjects related to science methods, embryological development, reproduction, genetics, evolution, human organ systems, disease, and environmental biology. Ethical considerations of reproduction and birth control, genetic engineering, environmental pollution and population control will be included. Credit in BIO 134 as a laboratory science is contingent upon completion of BIO 114. Credit in this course cannot be applied to either a major or minor in the sciences. Fall, Spring, Summer. Credit 3.

COURSE STRUCTURE:

1. **Lecture** will cover the basics of biology.
2. **Attendance** is not mandatory, but you will benefit greatly by attending. I will cover information that is not in your book that you will be responsible for knowing. See below for missed assignments policy.
3. **Lecture Exams** will provide you with a gauge of your progress.
4. **Reading** the assigned chapters and all handouts is necessary for the class.
5. **TAKE NOTES!** I am not obligated to post my lecture slides. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE NOTES!
6. **Missed Tests:** Excusing a student is at the discretion of the faculty (see below, "Class Attendance"). I do not give make-up exams because the lowest exam score and the bonus assignment will not count against the student. Any student arriving after the first student has completed the exam and turned it in will not be allowed to take the exam.

COURSE RESOURCES:

Required Texts:

TITLE	Essential Biology with Physiology, Second Edition
AUTHOR	Campbell, Reece and Simon

Additional Media

BLACKBOARD The Bonus Assignment will be submitted electronically via BlackBoard. The syllabus will be posted on Blackboard, as well as **abbreviated** versions of lecture, at my discretion. Again, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE NOTES!

EVALUATION METHODS:

Your grade will be derived from four lecture exams (including the final) and 20 point Bonus Question. Details follow:

GRADING:

	Number	Points	
Lecture Exams	4	400	(100 points each)
Cumulative Final Exam	1	100	
Total		400	(LOWEST DROPPED)
Bonus Assignment	1	50	(up to 50 extra points available)

So you can possibly earn 450 points out of 400 points!

- Lecture Exams:** There are a total of 4 lecture exams and the cumulative final exam. All exams are comprehensive in that you must understand and be able to build on concepts presented in previous lectures. The final exam is cumulative and will cover all material presented in previous exams. Your lowest exam grade of the 4 lecture exams will be dropped. Any student arriving after the first student has completed the exam and turned it in will not be allowed to take the exam. **I do not give make-up exams because you have the opportunity to drop your lowest exam grade.**
- Bonus Assignment:** There will be one 50 point bonus question assigned at some point during the semester period. We will discuss details in the day of the assignment. If you are not in lecture that day, **I WILL NOT POST THE ASSIGNMENT ON BLACKBOARD!** If you miss that day, you will miss the opportunity to make 50 bonus points.
- I reserve the right to assign in lecture pop-quizzes that count as points towards the final score at any time.**
- There will be NO ADDITIONAL extra credit, under any circumstance or for any reason.**

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE AND EXAM SCHEDULE *:

(*Subject to change based on lecture and class progression)

	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Week 1	Introduction	Chapter 1	Chapter 1
Week 2	Chapter 15	Chapter 16	Chapter 16
Week 3	NO CLASS	Chapter 17	Chapter 17
Week 4	Review	EXAM 1 W Sept 12	Chapter 2
Week 5	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 4
Week 6	Chapter 5,6,7	Chapter 5,6,7	Chapter 5,6,7
Week 7	Chapter 8	Chapter 8	Chapter 9
Week 8	Review	EXAM 2 W Oct 17	Chapter 9
Week 9	Chapter 10	Chapter 10	Chapter 11
Week 10	Chapter 11	Chapter 12	Chapter 12
Week 11	Chapter 13	Chapter 13	Chapter 13
Week 12	Review	EXAM 3 W Nov 7	Chapter 14
Week 13	Chapter 14	Chapter 14	Chapter 18
Week 14	Chapters 18	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Week 15	Chapter 19	Chapter 19	20
Week 16	Review	EXAM 4 M Dec 5	NO CLASS
Finals Week	See below		

OFFICIAL FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE:

If your BIO 143 class meets on:	Then your final is on:	At:	In room:
SEC 01: MWF 8:00 am - 08:50 am	MONDAY DEC 10	8:00 am - 10:00 am	LDB 114
SEC 04: MWF 12:00 pm - 12:50 pm	MONDAY DEC 10	2:00 pm - 04:00 pm	LDB 114

FALL 2007 IMPORTANT DATES:

August 20	MONDAY. Daytime on-campus classes begin. <u>Late Registration</u> . Process class schedule changes. Refer to the <u>Schedule of Classes</u> for details and deadlines. Monday Night (MN) classes begin (on-campus and off-campus).
August 27	MONDAY. Late Registration closes at 4:00 p.m. Payment for Late Registration due by 4:00 p.m.
September 3	MONDAY. Labor Day Holiday for students and faculty.
September 5	WEDNESDAY. Twelfth Class Day. Deadline for notification by students to the faculty members of the student's intent to be absent on religious holy days. Last day to drop with 100% refund. Must drop by 5:00 p.m.
September 6	THURSDAY. Drop Fall Semester courses online and receive a "Q". Resign from university with a mark of "W" through the day before student's first final exam is taken.
September 14	FRIDAY. Last day for dropping half-semester courses without grade of F.
October 10	WEDNESDAY. Half-semester courses end. Last day to drop Fall Semester courses without grade of F. (Drops must be processed by 5:00 p.m.) Degree applications to be filed in Registrar's Office by students graduating in May, 2006.
November 16	FRIDAY. Deadline for submission of theses and dissertations to the appropriate academic dean's office.
November 20	TUESDAY. Thanksgiving holidays for students and faculty begin at 9:00 P.M. Residence halls close at 10:00 P.M.
November 21,22,23	WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY. Thanksgiving holidays for students and faculty.
December 6	THURSDAY. Last class day.
December 10,11, 12, 13	MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY. Final examinations [includes Monday Night (MN), Tuesday Night (TuN), Wednesday Night (WN) and Thursday Night (ThN) final examinations].
December 15	SATURDAY. TENTATIVE . Commencement, Bernard G. Johnson Coliseum.
December 17	MONDAY. 9:00 A.M. Deadline for filing grades with the Registrar's Office. Fall Semester ends.

SAM POLICY

www.shsu.edu/syllabus/ for additional documentation.

Academic Honesty: All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

Visitors in the classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

Students with Disabilities: It is the policy of the university that no otherwise qualified disabled student shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from participation in, or denied benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting their instructor, school/department chair, or by contacting the university Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students/ Director of Counseling Center (located in Lee Drain Annex, phone 936-294-1720). A student with a disability is encouraged to register with the university Counseling Center, as well as contacting their instructor about assistance needs. Accommodation cannot be made until the student has initiated the request with the Counseling Center. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the Counseling Center and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center. All requests are handled with confidentiality according to university procedures.

Religious Holy Days Policy: Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that the university excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University Policy 861001 provides procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

Class Attendance

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html>

1. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University.
2. Each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance.
3. Each faculty member will announce the policies for accepting late work or providing makeup examinations. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations.
4. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class work has not been missed; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences.
5. Each instructor is obligated to clarify in writing to each student enrolled in class at the beginning of the semester or summer session the instructor's classroom policy regarding absences.
6. Class absences will be recorded and counted only from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in that specific class.