

COURSE INFORMATION

Biology 191

Organismal Biology

Spring, 2010

INSTRUCTOR: Renee Magrini

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OFFICE HOURS: 1:00-2:00 p.m. M,W,&F; 11:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m. T&Th; or by appointment. **I will NOT have office hours between 10:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. M-F, as I will be preparing for lecture during these times.**

ATTENDANCE: It is your responsibility to attend all lecture sessions. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of each lecture. Attendance in lecture is particularly important because exam questions will be drawn from lecture material. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of class and after the 15 min. break. *If you are late and miss the taking of attendance, be sure to see me **after class** so I can mark you present. If you fail to do this, you will be marked absent irreversibly.* If a student is habitually late, i.e. more than 4 times, I will deduct 1% from your attendance total for each additional time he/she is late. Students that fail to return after the break will lose ½ point on attendance for that class. Attendance in lecture is worth 100 points toward your lecture average

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION: Primarily lecture, however slides and videos may be shown occasionally.

HOMEWORK: Your homework assignments are found at the end of each chapter. When we complete each chapter in the textbook, you will complete the ***Test Your Understanding*** questions. Ideally, the assignment should be finished upon completion of the chapter, and turned in the following week. Homework is worth 100 points toward your lecture average.

EXTRA CREDIT: You will be given the opportunity to complete the ***Critical Thinking*** questions from each chapter in your textbook in order to earn extra credit. Critical Thinking questions require the ability to apply what you have learned in class to a hypothetical situation in order to strengthen your powers of deductive reasoning. Extra credit will be worth ***two points***, which will

be added to your final average at the end of the semester. For example, if your final average was 88(B+) and you completed ALL Critical Thinking questions during the semester, 2 points would be added to your final average, bringing your total up to 90 (A-).

EXAMS & GRADING: Three lecture exams, at 100 points each, will be given during the course of the semester. Each will be non-comprehensive, covering the material for that section only.

Make-up exams will only be given to students with a valid doctor's excuse stating that either the student or his/her child was ill. YOU CANNOT MAKE UP MORE THAN ONE EXAM!

If you miss an exam for a valid reason, i.e. an important business trip or a mandatory meeting, you must make arrangements with me *in advance*, and I will schedule a makeup date.

NOTE: ALL MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE COMPOSED ENTIRELY OF ESSAY QUESTIONS (NO EXCEPTIONS!) AND WILL BE GRADED ACCORDING TO A SPECIFIC RUBRIC.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY (CHEATING): Cheating includes, but is not limited to: looking at another student's quiz, lab practical, or exam; looking at one's notes, textbook or cell phone while taking a quiz or exam; plagiarizing another student's work; plagiarizing copyrighted material. Any students found cheating will be expelled from the class.

TEXTBOOK: Biology by Solomon, Berg, and Martin. Vol. II. 8th Ed.
ISBN-13: 9780495309796

RECOMMENDED READING: Study Power by Luckie and Smethurst

COMPUTING YOUR GRADE: Your final grade will be calculated using the following formula:

Calculate your lecture average.

Lecture exams (300 points possible), Homework (100 points possible), Attendance (100 points possible). Total points possible for lecture = 500

To calculate your lecture average, add up your three lecture exams, homework, and attendance and divide this sum by 500.

Hypothetical Example: 85 (Ex. 1)
91 (Ex. 2)
89 (Ex. 3)
93 (Attn)
100 (Hmwk)
458

$$458/500 = .916 \times 100 = 91.6\% (92\%)$$

If your final average is:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
93-100A	4.0
90-92A-	3.7
87-89B+	3.3
83-86B	3.0
80-82B-	2.7
77-79C+	2.3
73-76C	2.0
70-72C-	1.7
67-69D+	1.3
63-66D	1.0
60-62D-	0.7
59 ↓W	0

THIS GRADING SCALE IS ABSOLUTE--THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS POLICY!



TENTATIVE LECTURE OUTLINE
Organismal Biology

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>
Jan. 26/28	Introduction/Understanding Diversity and Systematics	Chapter 23
Feb. 2/4	Viruses and Prokaryotes	Chapter 24
Feb. 9/11	Protists	Chapter 25
Feb. 16/18	Kingdom Fungi	Chapter 26
Feb. 23/25	The Plant Kingdom: Seedless Plants	Chapter 27
Mar. 2	The Plant Kingdom: Seed Plants	Chapter 28
Mar. 4	EXAM I	
Mar. 9/11	Plant Structure, Growth and Differentiation	Chapter 32
Mar. 16/18	Plant Structure, Growth and Differentiation	Chapter 32
Mar. 23/25	Spring Break–No Classes!	
Mar. 30/Apr. 2	Reproduction in Flowering Plants	Chapter 36
Apr. 6/8	Plant Growth and Development	Chapter 37
Apr. 13	Plant Growth and Development	Chapter 37
Apr. 15	EXAM II	
Apr. 20/22	The Animal Kingdom: An Introduction	Chapter 29
	The Animal Kingdom: The Protostomes	Chapter 30
Apr. 27/29	The Animal Kingdom: The Protostomes, cont'd	Chapter 30
May 4/6	The Animal Kingdom: The Deuterostomes	Chapter 31
May 11/13	Community Structure and Biodiversity	Chapter 53
May 18	Community Structure and Biodiversity	Chapter 53
May 20	EXAM III	