

PRINCIPLES OF MODERN BIOLOGY
BIOLOGY 112 (3 Credit hours)
Lecture Syllabus Spring 2004

Instructor: Dr. Christian d'Orgeix
Office: 211 Lockett
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OFFICE HOURS: MWF 8-9am
211 Lockett M 1-3pm
W 1-3pm
F 10-11am & 1-3pm by appointment

Lecture Text: Biology, The Unity and Diversity of Life 10th edition, Starr & Taggart, 2004, Thomson-Brooks/Cole

Blackboard access card: Comes with new text or can be purchased separately.

Laboratory Text: Biology, Biology 112 Laboratory, 2003, McGraw-Hill/Primis Online.

Course Description & Objectives: This is an intensive introductory biology course that will give you the knowledge of the basic principles in biology and provide the foundation for advanced studies in the biological sciences. You will develop analytical skills and abilities in applying the scientific method of inquiry to understanding how scientist conduct experiments and ask questions about the biological world. In addition you will also develop the skills necessary to think critically and analyze information for its factual and logical content. To be successful you will need to develop the ability and skills to read the textbook and interpret graphs and charts. Some of the areas covered are the chemical basis of life, cell structure & function, photosynthesis, respiration, DNA structure & function, and genetics.

Grading: Weekly quizzes, chapter tests, a midterm and final will be the basis for your grade. Your final grade will be based on a percent of the total points as follows:

Final Grade
A= 90-100%
B= 80-89%
C= 70-79%
D= 60-69%
F= Below 60%

You may calculate your grade at any time by checking Blackboard and dividing your points by the total points possible at that time multiplied by 100.

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS:

1. Attend all classes. This is extremely important so that you don't miss the development of ideas and become lost. It is your responsibility to get notes from your classmates and/or visit me during office hours if you do miss a class.

2. Read ahead and review your notes.

You should be spending a **minimum of 2 hours of studying for each hour in class.** This is not a class you can cram for at the last moment.

3. Visit me in my office. I have office hours so that I can help you with any of your questions or offer tips on study techniques so you can master the materials presented. If you are confused or want to make sure you understand something covered in class or that you read, please drop by. I am here to help you and welcome your visits.

POLICIES:

This is university class in which you have chosen to participate. In order to both get the most out of class and to be courteous to your classmates, the following rules must be abided by.

1. No talking during class except when appropriate, such as when answering or asking questions.
2. No cell phones in class (if you have one it must be turned off). If it rings during class you must leave class at that time and return the next class period.
3. No late admittance to class. The door will be closed promptly at the start of class. Thereafter no one else will be admitted. (If you are late use the time to study what you are missing.)
4. No sleeping in class. If you sleep in class you will be asked to leave.
5. By accepting admission to Virginia State University, each student makes a commitment to understand, support, and abide by the "University Honor Code" without compromise or exception. Violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. This class will be conducted in strict observance of the Honor Code. Refer to your Student Handbook for details.

Cheating:

If you are caught cheating on an exam or quiz you will receive a 0 for that work. You will also be asked to leave class and reported to the department head. Please avoid this by simply not cheating.

Classroom decorum:

All students are expected to exhibit proper classroom decorum. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior on the part of any student towards anyone will not be tolerated. Students exhibiting such behavior will be asked to leave the classroom.