

Bio 121S Intro to Biology: Cells, Genetics, And Evolution

4 Credit Hours

Section/Term:	BIO-121S-002FS
Class Meeting Time:	12:00-2:15
Location:	Room 121
Faculty:	Rachael Detraz M.S. in Biology, Central Michigan University, 2006-2008 M.S. coursework in Geology, Wright State University, 2016-2019
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Phone:	937-778-7882
On Campus Office Hours:	Monday and Wednesday 10:30-12:00 pm (room 121 or 106)
Online Office Hours:	Thursday 8:30-9:30 pm (email me first) Saturday 7:30-9:30 pm (email me first)

Required Materials:

- OpenStax Biology 2nd Edition (ISBN 9781947172517)
 - This is a free online textbook. Go to [Openstax Biology 2e](https://openstax.org/books/biology-2e) to view and read the book online at any time. You can also download the PDF version of the textbook to your computer for free (and print it if you wish). If you prefer a traditional printed and bound version, you can either 1) order a copy through this link, 2) purchase it used from Ebay or Amazon or a similar website, or 3) purchase a copy from the eCampus bookstore.
 - Note: If you are a CC+ student, you MUST use one of the free options. You will not be allowed to purchase a bound book from eCampus.
- Modified MasteringBiology Access, Pearson
 - Pearson access can be purchased online through the eCampus bookstore. Alternatively, you can purchase access with a credit or debit card via Blackboard. To register, go to Blackboard, click Assignments, click Week 1, and click the Week 1 Pearson homework. You will be prompted to register and either enter a code from eCampus, purchase access, or sign up for a free trial.
 1. You may purchase access through Edison's online bookstore eCampus. If you do, you will find a code on your digital bookshelf on the eCampus website. This code will be entered during Pearson registration on Blackboard. If you purchase through eCampus, you must create your account using the first Pearson Week 1 Homework link in Blackboard.
 - Note: If you are a CC+ student, you MUST purchase access from eCampus.
 2. You may purchase access through Blackboard rather than eCampus for cheaper. If you purchase access through Blackboard, you do NOT need to pay extra for the ebook since we will be using the free OpenStax book for this course.
 3. Sign up for the free trial if your financial aid is delayed so that you can complete the assignments on time.

Attendance

Attendance is always important. You learn from both hearing and seeing the material as well as discussing it with your fellow students, and you will receive important updates during class. Plus, the extra credit for this course can only be completed in class, and you have homework and lab assignments due at the

start of class. If you miss a class period, not only will you lose the opportunity to earn extra credit, but any assignments due that day will be considered late and will be subject to the late work policy below. Any labs you miss will earn a grade of zero. If you would like to be exempted from a lab or earn full credit on an assignment due on a day that you absolutely **MUST** miss class, the reason needs to be documented and the assignment turned in early.

Note: I take attendance at the start of class. If you are not in your seat when I take attendance, you will be counted as absent.

Make-Up Work

If you do not have your assignment by the due date (regardless of the reason), you may turn it in late for a maximum of 50% credit. Missed labs cannot be made up and will incur automatic zeroes.

Prerequisites

This course covers 23 chapters in 16 weeks, so the material moves quickly. The recommended prerequisites are high school biology and chemistry, so you are expected to be familiar with basic concepts in both areas. You can still succeed if you haven't taken high school chemistry and biology, but you will need to invest more hours into reading and reviewing the chapters.

Assessment

Chapter Prep Work (522 pts):

You need to be prepared for class discussion each day. This means thoroughly reading each chapter before you come to class. To make sure you are reading each chapter before class, there is a prep assignment you must complete for each chapter on Pearson's Mastering Biology. Each prep assignment should take approximately 30-40 minutes to complete, but you **MUST** read the chapter first. Access your prep work through Assignments in Blackboard. See above for how to set up your account.

Practice Tests (472 pts):

To help you determine if you are ready to take each exam, there is a practice test for each exam. You get two attempts to take each test. Try to not use your textbook, although you can most definitely use the book to look up answers. Take as much time as you need! Use the practice tests to help you prepare for the exam. Access your practice tests under Assignments on Blackboard.

Exams (800 pts):

Exams consist of 70-100 multiple choice questions randomly drawn from a pool of questions. In this way, every student's exam will be different. Exams will require you to **APPLY** concepts as I already know you are capable of memorization of facts. Tests will be administered via the Respondus LockDown Browser. This browser is installed in the library and Internet Café of the Piqua campus. If you plan to take the exams at home, installation instructions are posted on Blackboard. The same document has instructions on how to access the test. A password is **NOT** required. You must take the test within the time specified, and you must finish it once it is started since you only get one attempt. Save your test after each question. These are **NOT** group exams, and you are **NOT** allowed to use the Internet to find answers. Should you have any problems accessing an exam, email me immediately.

Exam questions will be answered one at a time and you may skip questions and come back to them (although this will take longer and you are only allowed 2 hours). If you get a red bar across the test part-way through, do NOT hit “okay”. Hit the back button first. Try that several times to see if it fixes the problem. If it doesn’t, try refreshing the browser. If it still doesn’t work, hit “OK”, and then start the exam process over to finish the test. If you get a message saying “test already submitted”, email me immediately as I will need to wipe your test so that you can start over. If your Internet window goes white, you can try refreshing the browser or closing the window and going back into the test, BUT if a box appears warning you that the exam will be submitted, do NOT hit OK. Just shut down your computer without closing the window, and then restart your computer and go right back in to the exam.

Access your exams under Assignments on Blackboard.

Individual Presentation (100 pts):

Each person will choose a taxonomic group of animals and present information on its phylogeny and member species. Topics are first come, first serve. Grading will follow the grading criteria posted on Blackboard under Course Information. Make them colorful, minimize the amount of words per slide, and know your material! You must email me your Powerpoint by the date listed in the calendar.

Labs (308 pts):

Most labs will have questions to be completed in class. Some labs may require work outside of class. Each lab is worth 20 pts, which includes attendance! You must come to class to participate in labs; there will be no make-ups! Labs not completed in class will be due the following class period.

Miscellaneous Quizzes (124 points):

Several quizzes will be completed on various topics using Blackboard.

Extra Credit:

Limited extra credit is available but may only be completed during class time. If you miss a class period where extra credit is offered, it may not be made up.

AI Policy

For this course, you are NOT allowed to use artificial intelligence (AI) programs to complete your assignments. You are welcome to use AI to study for your exams. You also may use AI to format any literature citation sections that are required for an assignment. However, all writing and analysis MUST be original without the assistance of AI.

Grading Policy

Grades will be posted on Blackboard as I finish them. Check often in case I make an error. Your final grade will be a weighted grade. Lab points on McGraw Hill will account for 40% of your final grade, and lecture (all other assignments) will account for 60% of your final grade. Letter grades will be recorded as follows. I do not round above the 10ths place, ie. a 89.78% = 89.8% which is a B.

- A 90.0 and above
- B 80.0 – 89.9
- C 70.0 – 79.9
- D 60.0 – 69.9
- F 0 – 59.9

Schedule (Subject to Change)

Week	Monday (12:00 pm)	Wednesday (12:00 pm)	Sunday (11:59 pm)
8/24-8/30	Ch 1	Catalase Lab Study Skills Quiz	
8/31-9/6	Ch 2 Ch 2 prep due	Ch 3 Ch 3 prep due	
9/7-9/13	No School	Nutrient Analysis Lab	Practice Test 1 Exam 1 (Ch 1-3)
9/14-9/20	Ch 4 Ch 4 prep due	Microscope Lab	
9/21-9/27	Ch 5 Ch 5 prep due	Crossword Contest Ch 9 Ch 9 prep due	
9/28-10/4	Ch 6 Reaction Rates Lab Ch 6 prep due	Ch 7 CO ₂ in Yeast Lab Ch 7 prep due	Practice Test 2 Exam 2 (Ch 4, 5, 9)
10/5-10/11	Ch 8 Chromatography Lab Ch 8 prep due	Jeopardy Exam Reflection Ch 10 Ch 10 prep due	Practice Test 3 Exam 3 (Ch 6-8)
10/12-10/18	Ch 11 Mitosis Lab Ch 11 prep due	Ch 12 Ch 12 prep due	
10/19-10/25	Ch 13 Genes/Probability Lab Ch 13 prep due	Ch 14 Gel Electrophoresis Lab Ch 14 prep due	Practice Test 4 Exam 4 (Ch 10-12)
10/26-11/1	Ch 15 Transformation Lab Ch 15 prep due	Ch 16 Transformation Lab Ch 16 prep due	Video 1 Quiz Practice Test 5 Exam 5 (13-15)
11/2-11/8	Ch 17 Ch 17 prep due	Ch 18 Ch 18 prep due	Practice Test 6 Exam 6 (16-17)
11/9-11/15	Patterns Lab Project Discussion	No School	
11/16-11/22	Ch 19 Ch 19 prep due	HWE Lab	
11/23-11/29	Nail Tree Lab Biochemical Evidence Lab	Ch 20 Ch 20 prep due	Video 2 Quiz
11/30-12/6	Ch 22 Bacterial Plates Lab Ch 22 prep due	Ch 23 Ch 23 prep due	Video 3 Quiz Video 3 Discussion Post Practice Test 7 Exam 7 (18-20)
12/7-12/11	Ch 27 Hominid Skulls Lab Ch 27 prep due	Presentations Video 3 comments	Video 3 replies Practice Test 8 Exam 8 (22, 23, 27)

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Plagiarism is the act of using someone else's words, sentences, or ideas and passing them off as your own without giving credit by citing the original source. If you plagiarize in this course, you will receive a score of zero for that assignment and you will be reported to the dean.

You might be plagiarizing if you:

- Submit someone else's work as your own.
- Buy a paper from a papermill, website or other source.
- Copy and paste lab answers from a papermill, website, or other source.
- Copy sentences, phrases, paragraphs, or ideas from someone else's work, published or unpublished, without giving the original author credit.
- Replace select words from a passage without giving the original author credit.
- Copy any type of multimedia (graphics, audio, video, internet streams), computer programs, music compositions, graphs, or charts from someone else's work without giving the original author credit.
- Piece together phrases, ideas, and sentences from a variety of sources to write an essay.
- Build on someone else's idea or phrase to write your paper without giving the original author credit.
- Submit your own paper in more than one course.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES

For Blackboard Assignment issues, the Instructor should be the first point of contact

For Log-in or other technology issues:

There are several steps you can follow if you have issues logging in to Blackboard or Office.

During business hours:

- Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts.
- Reach out for help during regular business hours (9-5 Monday-Thursday, 9-4 Friday)
 - email [Support](#)
 - call 937-778-8600 and ask for IT Help Desk

After hours:

- Password reset: Log onto office.com with your Edison email and follow the “forgot password” prompts
- Go to [Edison State Community College](#) into the Resources tab and click "IT Help Desk" then click "Chat".
- Call 937-778-7957 and talk to the off-campus Blackboard company to get help

TESTING YOUR FAITH ACT POLICY

Edison State Community College is committed to providing an environment respectful of students' beliefs. Students are permitted to be absent for up to 3 days each semester based on their faith, religion, or spiritual belief system with no academic penalty. Students must complete the [Testing Your Faith Act Accommodations Form](#) and provide a copy to their individual faculty within 14 days from the start of the course. The entire policy can be found in the [Student Handbook](#).

ACCOMMODATIONS /ACCESSIBILITY AND DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES POLICY

Edison State Community College will make reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you believe you may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, contact the instructor privately with your self-identification letter. If you do not have a self-identification letter, contact Accessibility and Disability Support Services by emailing [Disabilities Services](#) or by calling 937.778.7850. Accessibility and Disability Support Services is located on the Piqua Campus in Room 160.