BIOL 1411 General Botany Syllabus
Spring 2019

Instructor Information

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Office Hours: Email for an appointment

Course Information

Course title: General Botany
Course & Section Number: BIOL 1411-51426
Semester/Year: Spring 2019
Credit Hours: 4
Class Meeting Time/Location: Online
Last Day to Withdraw: April 17, 2019

Course Prerequisites

College level ready in Reading and Writing.

Course Description

Fundamental biological concepts relevant to plant physiology, life cycle, growth and development, structure and function, and cellular and molecular metabolism. The role of plants in the environment, evolution, and phylogeny of major plant groups, algae, and fungi. Laboratory activities will reinforce all of these concepts. (This course is intended for science majors.) (3 Lec., 3 Lab.)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Compare and contrast the structures, reproduction, and characteristics of plants, algae, and fungi.
2. Describe the characteristics of life and the basic properties of substances needed for life.
3. Identify the principles of inheritance and solve classical genetic problems.
4. Describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.
5. Identify the major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants, including the basis for classification, structural and physiological adaptations, evolutionary history, and ecological significance.
6. Identify the chemical structures, synthesis, and regulation of nucleic acids and proteins.
7. Identify the substrates, products, and important chemical pathways in photosynthesis and respiration.
8. Describe the unity and diversity of plants and the evidence for evolution through natural selection.
9. Compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.
10. Describe the reasoning processes applied to scientific investigations and thinking.
11. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
12. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.
13. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.

Core Curriculum Objectives

Intellectual competencies identified by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) are available at the THECB website (www.thecb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=427FDE26-AF5D-F1A1-E6FDB62091E2A507).

The following four Core Objectives will be addressed in this course:

- Critical Thinking Skills
- Communication Skills
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills
- Teamwork

Required Textbooks

  - Available for free online at the website below:
    - OpenStax https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology

Required Course Materials

- Lab Supplies – Email your instructor for a list. The list is also posted on eCampus
- eCampus – You will need a computer with an internet connection to access this course through ecampus (ecampus.dcccd.edu)
- Imaging – any device that takes digital images
- Word Processing – Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or another word processing program
• Memory – Flash drive, memory stick, cloud drive, etc.

A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.

**Minimal Technical Skills**

The technical skills that you will need for this course are:

• Navigating and using eCampus (Blackboard Learning Management System)
• Uploading assignment files and digital images to eCampus
• Creating and downloading digital images to a computer
• Creating files using a word processing program

**Grading Policy**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Points Each</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module Notes</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practice Test</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Test</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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**Grade Scale**

The following letter grades will be assigned per the total points listed: A (90-100%)=900-1000, B (80-89%)=800-899, C (70-79%)=700-799, D (60-69%)=600-699, F (0-59%)=0-599

**Course Activities**

This course includes 15 modules divided into 5 units. Course Activities include:

• **Module notes** – Notes over the required resources for each module. Required resources may include videos, readings, and presentations
• **Lab** – Lab assignments include keeping a botany field journal, writing reports, and experiments.
• **Practice test** – Practices tests cover each module and allow students to self-assess their understanding of the information.
• **Unit Test** – Five unit tests are given, and the lowest grade will be dropped.

**Other Course Policies**
Grading Response Time
The instructor will grade all assignments and exams within 2 weeks of the due date. The instructor will inform the students if she is not able to grade assignments and/or exams within this timeframe due to unusual circumstances.

Extra Credit Policy
No extra credit points are allowed.

Accessibility
This course has been reviewed for accessibility. Please inform the instructor if you encounter any accessibility problems. Students will use a textbook and a variety of multimedia materials in this course. Whenever possible, accessibility information will be posted on eCampus near the multimedia being used.

Institutional Policies
All El Centro students are responsible for knowing and adhering to the following institutional and course-related policies:

- Institutional Policies
- Course-related Institutional Policies
- DCCCD Office of Institutional Equity Syllabi Statement
- Title IX and Sexual Misconduct
- Concealed Carry (Campus Carry)

Disclaimer
The provisions contained in this syllabus do not constitute a contract between the students and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Coordinator/Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the student.