

**Syllabus:** Concepts of Biology II Lab WEB
**Course Number:** BIOL 1109.W51
**Semester & Year:** *16 week format*

**Instructor Information**

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Office Hours: email for appointment

**Textbook Information**

There is a **required** **lab** **kit,** (code #1310), **ISBN 978001280X** which must be purchased from the TC Bookstore. All of the manual lab experiments are on Moodle TC Online. Failure to purchase the lab kit will result in the student being dropped from the course.

**Class Communication**

All forms of communication with students will occur through TC-email via the myTC portal. Please check your email on a regular basis for announcements regarding this class. All instructor emails will be archived for suture reference within the Professor’s Corner (Prof. Storey's Emails to class)

**Student Learning Outcomes for the Course**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as

microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.

2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.

3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.

4. Define modern evolutionary synthesis, natural selection, population genetics, micro and

macroevolution, and speciation.

5. Describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.

6. Identify the major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants and animals, including the basis

for classification, structural and physiological adaptations, evolutionary history, and

ecological significance.

7. Describe basic animal physiology and homeostasis as maintained by organ systems.

8. Compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.

9. Illustrate the relationship between major geologic change, extinctions, and evolutionary

trends.

***LockDown Browser + Webcam* Requirement**

**This course requires the use of *LockDown Browser and a webcam* for online exams**. The webcam can be the type that's built into your computer or one that plugs in with a USB cable.

You must use a Mac or Windows computer or iPad device. **Mobile smart phones are NOT supported. This is a course requirement (not optional).**

Watch this brief video to get a basic understanding of LockDown Browser and the webcam feature.

<https://www.respondus.com/products/lockdown-browser/student-movie.shtml>

**Download Instructions**

* Select the quiz in the course
* You will see the message "This quiz has been configured so that students may only attempt it using the Respondus LockDown Browser."
* Below this will appear a "Download LockDown Browser" link. Click the button to go to the download page and then follow the instructions
* Download Respondus LockDown Browser to your computer; follow the installation instructions
* Return to the Quiz page in Moodle (it may still be open in another tab)
* Select "Launch LockDown Browser"
* The quiz will now start

Note: LockDown Browser only needs to be installed once to a computer or device. It will start automatically from that point forward when a quiz requires it.

**Guidelines**
When taking an online quiz, follow these guidelines:

* Ensure you're in a location where you won't be interrupted
* Turn off all other devices (e.g. tablets, phones, second computers) and place them outside of your reach
* Before starting the test, know how much time is available for it, and also that you've allotted sufficient time to complete it
* Clear your desk or workspace of all external materials not permitted - books, papers, other devices
* Remain at your computer for the duration of the test
* If the computer, Wi-Fi, or location is different than what was used previously with the "Webcam Check" and "System & Network Check" in LockDown Browser, run the checks again prior to the exam
* To produce a good webcam video, do the following:
	+ **Avoid wearing baseball caps or hats with brims**
	+ Ensure your computer or device is on a firm surface (a desk or table). **Do NOT** have the computer on your lap, a bed, or other surface where the device (or you) are likely to move
	+ If using a built-in webcam, avoid readjusting the tilt of the screen after the webcam setup is complete
	+ Take the exam in a **well-lit room**, but avoid backlighting (such as sitting with your back to a window)
* Remember that LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted

**Getting Help**
Several resources are available if you encounter problems with LockDown Browser:

* The Windows and Mac versions of LockDown Browser have a "Help Center" button located on the toolbar. Use the "System & Network Check" to troubleshoot issues. If an exam requires you to use a webcam, also run the "Webcam Check" from this area
* The TC help desks want you to run the "System & Network Check" and the "Webcam Check" before you contact them and be sure to forward the results of these checks at the time of opening a ticket. Contact the TC Help Desk at **903 -823-3030** or at <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/helpdesk/> .
* Respondus has a Knowledge Base available from support.respondus.com. Select the "Knowledge Base" link and then select "Respondus LockDown Browser" as the product. If your problem is with a webcam, select "Respondus Monitor" as your product

If you're still unable to resolve a technical issue with LockDown Browser, go to support.respondus.com and select "Submit a Ticket". Provide detailed information about your problem and what steps you took to resolve it.

**TC Computer Requirement Policy:**

Students are required to have a computer with Internet access for classes. The computer must be an actual computer – smart phones, iPads, Androids, Chromebooks, etc., are not acceptable substitutes because they lack software compatibility necessary to complete all assignments and tests. Financial costs for the necessary equipment and internet access are the responsibility of the student.

Students needing to purchase a computer may do so through the Texarkana College Bookstore. Systems purchased through the bookstore meet or exceed all requirements, are competitively priced, and may be purchased using financial aid funds. If the system is purchased through another source, it is the student’s responsibility to ensure the system meets all requirements.

Computer systems requirements:

* Webcam, microphone, and speakers or headphones
* Windows 10 or a recent version of Mac OS (minimum Sierra). Windows 10 S mode is not supported
* Hardware capable of running Microsoft Teams (free download) and supports multi-media playback
* Support for Chrome or Microsoft Edge – Note: Firefox, Safari, or other browsers may not work on all TC applications
* Able to run Microsoft Office which will be provided free to TC students
* Adobe Reader or another PDF viewer
* Antivirus software such as Windows Defender or another 3rd party anti-virus solution
* The Respondus Lockdown browser is used for taking tests; therefore, the system must be capable of running this software. Most newer systems that meet other specifications should work.Students should regularly backup content to prevent loss of coursework due to hardware failure. Backup copies of documents and other coursework may be placed on OneDrive cloud storage. OneDrive is included free of charge for all TC students.

A list of Internet service providers can be found on the TC website at: <https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/coronavirus/>.

**LAB EXAMS**

Students will take Lab Exams 1-3 and the Lab Final Exam online. Students are allowed to use their lab experiment data and reports to help them on their exam. Students can also use any typed or hand-written notes with them and use them on Exams 1-3. **No study aids are permitted on the FINAL EXAM.**

All major exams require the use of the Respondus LD browser + Web Cam system. **You must record audio and video and your complete FACE must be completely visible in order for the instructor to ensure that you the student are following the posted rules for the exam. Failure to do so will result in a minimum of a grade of ZERO for the exam** and possibly worse at the discretion of the professor.

**It is also STRONGLY recommended that you only take exams on a private computer, NOT a workplace computer where pop-up windows and other programs running in the background and firewalls can cause your exam to be terminated early!**

**IMPORTANT:** Be sure and look at your posted grades and attendance record on myTC. If you see any issues, there, please let me know as soon as possible. Be sure to save my reply emails to your email submissions and copies of all correspondence as proof of completing your work if any questions come up later in the semester.

**Student Requirements for Completion of the Course and Due Dates\***

\**See dates posted on Moodle TC Online*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Weeks / Deadlines | Units Covered | Labs, Quizzes, and Exams |
| **Week 1**;  | Evolution | Complete Population Genetics Experiments 1 and 2 only **(omit Experiments 3-5)** |
| Week 2;  | Evolution and Phylogeny | Complete Taxonomy Experiments 1 and 2 |
| Week 3; | Microbiology | Complete Bacteria and Archaea Experiments 1 and 2; Complete Protista Experiment 1 only (can omit Protista Experiment 2);  |
| Week 4;  | Microbiology | Complete Fungi Experiment 1 (can omit Fungi 2)  |
| **Week 5**;  | Microbiology | **LAB EXAM 1** |
| Week 6;  | Plants | Complete Plant Circulation Experiment 1  |
| Week 7;  | Plants | Complete Plant Circulation Experiment 2 |
| Week 8;  | Invertebrates | Complete Invertebrate Experiments 1 and 2 (omit Experiment 3)  |
| Week 9; | **No Assignments** | **SPRING BREAK**  |
| **Week 10;**  | Invertebrates | Complete Invertebrate Experiments 4 and 5**; LAB EXAM 2** |
| Week 11;  | Vertebrates | Complete Animal Structures Experiments 1 and 2 |
| Week 12;  | Vertebrates | Complete Animal Structures Experiment 3 and Vertebrate Experiment 6  |
| Week 13;  | Body Systems  | Complete Circulatory/Respiratory Systems Lab Experiments 1, 2, and 3 |
| **Week 14**;  | Body Systems | Complete Sensory/Nervous Systems Experiments 2, 3 and 4 (omit Experiment 1)**; LAB EXAM 3** |
| Week 15;  | Ecology | Complete Ecological Interactions Experiments 1 and 2 |
| **Week 16;**  | Ecology | Complete Ecology of Organisms Experiment 1**; LAB FINAL EXAM** |

**Student Assessment**

Students will be evaluated on a combination of lecture examinations, quizzes, articles and other class assignments, and a comprehensive final examination.
**This course grade is determined as follows**:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grade**  | **Number range** |
| **A** | 89.45-100 |
| **B** | 79.45-89.44 |
| **C** | 69.45-79.44 |
| **D** | 59.45-69.44 |
| **F** | 59.44-Below |

**Lab write-ups (hard copies turned in) 37.5%**

**Exam 1 12.5%**

**Exam 2 12.5%**

**Exam 3 12.5%**

**Final Exam 25%\_\_\_**

 **100%**

All lab exams may include **multiple choice**, essay, short answer, and labeling questions.

The cutoff point for rounding is 0.5 A final average of 89.5 is an A and a final average of 89.4 is a B.

**Weekly Materials to be turned in EVERY SUNDAY before 11:59PM throughout the semester:**

* **Evidence of Lab Completion -** In order to document student work on each lab activity a minimum of TWO (2) photos of the lab unit being completed must be sent in via the Assignment block on the Moodle weekly lab unit page. **These photos must include the equipment and supplies from the lab kit and show that work has been COMPLETED by the student**.
* **Lab Workbook Doc - The completed Lab Workbook document (MS Word) file (or photos of pages) must also be submitted before the weekly SUN night deadline for a separate grade.**

 The photos must be sent in via the Assignment block within the Moodle weekly lab unit page, no hard copies or emails will be accepted. The deadline for the weekly submission is 11:59PM SUNDAY nights. A minimum of TWO photos per week must be submitted. **Failure to submit these photos or document by the deadline will result in the student being counted ABSENT from lab for that week**.

**Make-Up Policy**

There are NO makeups for missed lab exams. If a student misses a lab exam, then they will receive an automatic score of zero.

**Absentee Policy**

Texarkana College’s absentee policy allows instructors to withdraw a student from a course due to excessive absences. Faculty members are not obligated to provide opportunities for students to make up missed assignments and tests as a result of a student’s absence from class. Do not stop attending a class without formally withdrawing from the course by the institution’s published last day to drop. If a student does not attend class and does not withdraw from the class, the student will receive a grade of F in the class. *The published Last Day to Drop applies to students; an instructor may withdraw a student for excessive absences at any time during the semester.*

**Withdrawal from a course(s) may affect a student’s current or future financial aid eligibility. Students should consult the Financial Aid Office to learn both short and long term consequences of a withdrawal.**

**EXCUSED ABSENCES**

*A student’s absence due to school trips and/or school business will not be counted against a student’s allowable number of absences. Military duty and absences for Holy Days (FBD LEGAL) are covered in a separate section of the catalog and the student handbook. These are the only types of absences that are considered excused by Texarkana College.* **Responsibility for work missed for any absence is placed on the student.** *Instructors are required to allow students to make up work missed if the absence is due to military duty or religious holy days when students follow the correct notification procedures.* **Instructors are not required to allow students to make up work for absences due to other reasons.**

**MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE ABSENCES**After official registration, the following number of unexcused absences will be the maximum allowable before a student may be dropped from the class:

This LAB course is a **web course**, and as such **the student must also complete an Enrollment Verification activity within the first week of class or the student may be dropped for not having attended**.

**ONLINE/WEB COURSE ABSENCES
Absence in a WEB course is defined as the lack of an active post or submission within the course including discussion board posts, written assignments and tests. This standard will be used to determine all laboratory absentee issues***. This course will use the submission of the two required photos and Lab Workbook doc before the weekly Sun night deadline of 11:59PM to determine attendance in the lab.*

**The maximum number of absences in this laboratory class is two (2) per semester (the equivalent of two (2) weeks of instruction). Any student who misses more than two may be dropped from the class.**

**WARNING: If you exceed the maximum number of absences for this course you may be dropped (W) from the course.**

**You can view your attendance record on the *myTC* portal under the student tab.**

If circumstances develop (e.g. extended illness, moving from the city, etc.) which necessitates your withdrawal from this or any other course be sure to let me know AND officially withdraw in the Director of Admissions office located in the C. M. Nelson Administration building. The date each semester is posted on the inside page of the current Texarkana College Catalog / Website under "Academic Calendar". A grade of W is recorded on your permanent transcript*if**you withdraw before the official deadline*.

**Class Behavior**

There will be a zero tolerance policy for any behavior that is disruptive and prevents or deters classroom learning. This behavior includes, but is not limited to, any use of vulgar language or rude behavior towards the instructor or any other student in the class (via email, text or MS TEAMS sessions). Violation could result in being asked to leave the class, withdrawal from the course, and/or investigation by the Dean of Students. Withdrawal from the course for a disciplinary issue results in a grade of F.

**Academic Integrity Statement**

Scholastic dishonesty, involving but not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism, col­lusion, or falsification of records will make the student liable for disciplinary action after being investigated by the Dean of Students. Proven violations of this nature will result in the student being dropped from the class with an “F”.

This policy applies campus wide, including TC Testing Center, as well as off-campus classroom or lab sites, including dual credit campuses. This information can be found in the Student Handbook at <https://texarkanacollege.edu>.

**Student Responsibilities**

It is the student’s responsibility to know and comply with the instructor’s policies, to submit all deadlines by the published deadlines and course schedule and to contact the instructor via email when you miss class to remain current in the course.

**Disability Act Statement:**

Texarkana College complies with all provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and makes reasonable accommodations upon request. Please contact Larry Andrews at (903) 823-3450 ext. 3349, or go by the Recruitment, Advisement, and Retention Department located in the Library for personal assistance. If you have an accommodation letter from their office indicating that you have a disability which requires academic accommodations, please present it to me so we can discuss the accommodations that you might need for this class. *It is best to request these changes at the beginning if not before the start of class* so there is ample time to make the accommodations.

**Financial Aid**

**Attention!** Dropping this class may affect your funding in a negative way! You could owe money to the college and/or federal government. Please check with the Financial Aid office before making a decision.

**Alternate Operations during Campus Closure**

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, Texarkana College may need to move to altered operations and course delivery methods. During this time, Texarkana College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to: online learning management system (Jenzabar or Moodle), online conferencing through TEAMS, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule.  It is the responsibility of the student to monitor Texarkana College's website ([www.texarkanacollege.edu](http://www.texarkanacollege.edu)) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, instructor email notifications on the method of delivery and course-specific communication, and Texarkana College email notifications for important general information.

**COVID-19 Online/Virtual Environment Instructional Commitment**

The ongoing Covid-19 situation will require that some course materials and instruction are provided through an online and/or virtual format. Even if all or a portion of a class was originally scheduled to meet face to face, social distancing guidelines associated with Covid-19 will limit the number of students who are able to attend face to face classes in person simultaneously. Further, circumstances associated with Covid-19 could cause the college to be forced to shift completely to an online and/or virtual delivery at any time during the semester. While TC faculty members are committed to providing students the option of face to face instruction if possible, students should be prepared to continue their classes in an online and/or virtual environment if necessary. Texarkana College is committed to maintaining engaging, high quality instruction regardless of the delivery format.

**I reserve the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the semester. The online version of this syllabus (TC Online LMS) is the official syllabus and supersedes all versions of this document in print.**