**Syllabus:** Concepts of Biology I for non-science majors  
**Course Number:** **BIOL 1308.DC** - Lecture ONLINE via TC Online LMS (Moodle)  
**Semester & Year:** (Extended course format Sept - May)

**Instructor Information**

Name: Prof. Mark A. Storey   
 Office: New Biology Building Rm. 29  
 Telephone: 903-823-3298  
 E-mail: [**Mark.Storey@texarkanacollege.edu**](mailto:Mark.Storey@texarkanacollege.edu)

**Textbook Information**

Built in free textbook TC Online LMS (within weekly lesson modules).

**Optional additional textbooks for reference:**

[Concepts of Biology 2013 Openstax Biology Free Textbooks Project – Rice Univ](https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology/get)

[*https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology/get*](https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology/get)

**Course Communication**

Official communication is through TC student email.

**Student Learning Outcomes for the Course**

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| *At the conclusion of the* ***lecture portion*** *of this course students should be able to:*   1. Distinguish between prokaryotic, eukaryotic, plant and animal cells, and identify major cell structures. 2. Identify stages of the cell cycle, mitosis (plant and animal), and meiosis. 3. Interpret results from cell physiology experiments involving movement across membranes, enzymes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration. 4. Apply genetic principles to predict the outcome of genetic crosses and statistically analyze results. 5. Interpret the results of karyotypes, pedigrees, and biotechnology experiments. 6. Identify parts of a DNA molecule, and describe replication, transcription, and translation. 7. Analyze evidence for evolution and natural selection. |

**Student Requirements for Completion of the Course**

This dual credit course is taught as a team with Prof. Storey at TC delivering the lecture content using the web via the TC Online LMS (Moodle) system and the onsite high school teacher teaching the lab component and assisting students with the lecture with the lecture online materials.

The lecture method will be used. However, the student will be required to participate in online “thread” discussions and complete a multiple choice progress check and a lesson quiz for each lesson unit throughout the course. In addition, four timed (4) lecture unit exams are taken online. Each unit exam is made available for students to take Monday through Friday (5 days) in the classroom with the teacher present who will serve as the exam proctor.. The course content is delivered through the LMS TC website: [**https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu/**](https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu/)

**For the schedule of topics and due dates for all assignments see the course website.**

**Access course materials at:** [**https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu**](https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu)

Technical Trouble? Contact the **HELP DESK SERVICE:24/7 submit a ticket @:**

[**http://www.texarkanacollege.edu/helpdesk/**](http://www.texarkanacollege.edu/helpdesk/)

**MON - FRI 8AM - 5PM** **(903) 823-3030**

**Student Assessment**

Four (4) lecture exams will be given over four units and a comprehensive final exam, for a total of five (5) exams valued at 75% of the course grade. The examination format will include multiple choice and True/False items. Exams will be administered according to the Lecture Topics and Exams schedule on the TC LMS course website.

**Access course materials at:**

[**https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu**](https://tconline.texarkanacollege.edu)

(pop up blocker within your internet browser must be disabled or an exception must be made for this site)

Technical Trouble? Contact the **HELP DESK SERVICE:24/7 submit a ticket @:**

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**The course grade will be calculated from the following:**

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| **Lecture Exams I, II, III & IV** | **60%** |
| **Lesson Quizzes** | **15%** |
| **Practice Tests (80% or above)** | **5%** |
| **Graded Discussion Forum Posts** | **5%** |
| **FINAL Exam – Comprehensive** | **15%** |
| **Total** | **100%** |

Unit tests will be available on-line on the weeks indicated in the course schedule. The tests are randomly generated from a test bank developed for this course. Each of the tests is different--no students will receive the same exam. Each test will consist of approximately 50 multiple choice questions total. Each exam or section of a multipart exam is timed and is taken at school with a proctor (teacher) present. When taking a test, be careful not to close the testing window, attempt to open other windows, or try to print the exam. These actions will cause the test to close.

**College Grading Scale**

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| **Semester Grade** | **Course Average** |
| **A** | 89.5-100 |
| **B** | 79.5-89.4 |
| **C** | 69.5-79.4 |
| **D** | 59.5-69.4 |
| **F** | 59.4-below |

**ABSENTEE POLICY**

**See high school absentee policy at your local school. All absences will be determined by your classroom teacher for the lecture and lab courses.**

**Make-up Policy**

Daily work (lesson units) must be completed within the two week time period in which they are scheduled.

**Tests will be administered in class by the course proctor and the dates may change according to his/her discretion**.

**Online Conduct**

Discussion Board responses, emails, and all other correspondence among faculty and students enrolled in this class are expected to conform to the level of conduct that would be expected in a regular classroom. Students should feel free to express disagreement with the instructor and other students but it must be done in a manner which is not abusive, threatening, or harassing in any form. Communication among students is encouraged but must end if one of the parties requests that it be terminated. Students will not send unsolicited email espousing a cause, religion, or activity to other class participants and will not add other class participants to any list-servers or other entity which distributes unwanted email or material.  
Violation of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action against the offending student. This action can include termination of the student's participation in the class and a grade of "F".

**Netiquette**

Here are the core rules for communicating with me and with each other for the duration of this course:

**Remember there's a person behind every message.** It is very easy to forget, as all we see is a computer screen. We don't see facial expressions, gestures, or hear intonation of voice. All we have are words, and if words are not well-chosen, they are easy to misinterpret. Words that ARE well-chosen are often easy to misinterpret too. Remember that, just as you have feelings, each human being out there in cyberspace has feelings as well. Give people the benefit of the doubt if you are the one reading their writing, and if you are the one writing, remember the feelings of others and take the time to construct your sentences as clearly as possible.

**Sarcasm does not translate well in cyberspace.** Cyberspace is more literal than a face-to-face conversation. For example, a phrase like "Yeah, I really believe that is true," can have the exact opposite meaning if you hear the person's delivery, see their body language, and observe their facial expressions in face to face conversation, but as just words on a page, it comes across literally, not figuratively. Again, make sure you say what you mean, and provide as few possibilities for misinterpretation as possible.

**“DO NOT TYPE IN CAPS ALL THE TIME.”** This is the online equivalent of screaming or yelling at someone. Please don’t do this, it is not appreciated. ☺

**Do not type in all lower case or use text message-like abbreviations, such as btw (by the way), or b/cuz, or lol (laughing out loud).** This is a college class and college-level writing (grammar, punctuation, vocabulary, etc.) is expected.

**Avoid "flaming."** Flaming is when someone expresses a bold point of view, sometimes overly bold or hyper-critical, and others follow up with equally overly-critical commentary and/or personal attacks. It is not that we cannot disagree - it would be a boring world if everyone had the same opinion about everything. It is also in pointed discussions that I've been able to refine my already-held opinions or even change them completely. That's the purpose of college: to make you think, to get you to see different points of view, to make you question your beliefs or to cement them more firmly than before with facts, etc. Discussion is good, disagreement is fine, even welcome, but remember rule #1 above: there are humans with feelings involved.

**Keep your comments and postings relevant**. Camaraderie is good, but please do not include conversation unrelated to the subject line or course material in discussion board communiqués.

**Identify yourself fully.** In the subject box of every email, please type your full name, course and section number (e.g. Sue Jones. BIOL 1408.H1). Please include full identification of who you are when you generate or reply to an email to your instructor. This should include your full name (first and last) as well as the course you are enrolled in. It is my policy that in order to preserve student confidentiality any email that I receive without proper identification will not be responded to.

**Write with civility and respect.** When asking questions, or making comments, do so in a respectful manner. If you are frustrated or irritated when you write the email, wait a minute to reread it asking yourself if the tone is appropriate for a student-teacher interchange before clicking Send. If you're really upset, write the email in Word and copy and paste it in later when you are calm enough to give it a reading with audience in mind. Practice patience. Emails will be answered within 24 hours of receipt Monday-Friday and often sooner. Usually I read email on the weekends, but some weekends, I will not be available.

**Copy yourself.** Send a copy of each email you write to yourself so you can be sure the email went through, and so you can resend it if there is any problem.

**Brevity.** Keep emails brief and to the point.

**Do not forward unsolicited material.** Do not forward material that you send to your friends to your classmates or professor. (Note: If you send emails to everyone in your address book, they will automatically go to your professor and any student in the class who has emailed you.)

(Excerpted from: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>)

**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://www.texarkanacollege.edu>.

**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 903.823.3283, or go by the Recruitment, Advisement, and Retention Department located in the Administration building 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.

**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.

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

**PLEASE complete this page and EMAIL Prof. Storey a scan or a photograph of this page only.**

[**Mark.Storey@texarkanacollege.edu**](mailto:Mark.Storey@texarkanacollege.edu)

**By signing this statement, I agree that I have read and understand what is expected of me to perform satisfactorily in this course of study.**

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Student Name (**PRINT** First & LAST NAME)

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Legal Signature

I am currently enrolled at: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ HIGH SCHOOL.