



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: BIOL 1010 Introduction to Biology

Section ID: 80702.202380

Semester and Year: Fall 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: August 21, 2023

End Date: December 08, 2023

Course Format: CON - Conventional Methodology

Catalog Course Description: This course is the study of cell structure and functions, osmosis and diffusion; mitosis and meiosis; basic chemical applications; protein synthesis and genetics; cellular respiration and photosynthesis; plant tissues, ecology, pollution and resulting population problems; as well as a survey of bacteria, protists, fungi and plants. Pre/Co-requisite: BIOL 1011. 3 hours lecture.

F,S,SU

General Education Course Designation: General Education Course

Meeting Details: MW; 11:10AM - 12:35PM; WSCE 116

Course Drop Deadline: October 27, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Samuel O'Dell

Office Location: WSCE 105

Office Hours: See schedule in eLearn

Office Phone: 423-851-4771

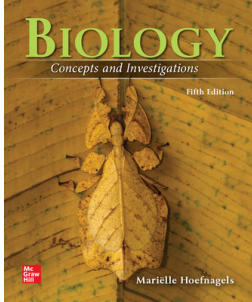
Email: Samuel.O'Dell@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Dr. Matthew Smith

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6881

Required Textbook(s) and Materials

Biology: Concepts and Investigations



ISBN: 9781260259049

Authors: Mariëlle Hoefnagels

Publication Date: 2020-01-01

Edition: 5th edition

Additional Information

This textbook is recommended for the course

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- The course syllabus is built around a common core. The subject content for the core is shown as learning outcomes.

A. Study of Life:

Describe the process of the scientific method and develop a hypothesis.

B. The Cell:

Identify and discuss cell structures and functions such as cell transport, cell division, enzyme function and protein synthesis.

C. Cell Chemistry:

Discuss the basic chemical concepts, the chemical composition of organic molecules and how they relate to and their importance in cell function. Describe the steps of cellular respiration and its relevance to cell function.

D. Plants:

Describe the process of photosynthesis and its relevance to plant cell function. Distinguish between the major groups of plants, describe their primary organs and functions, and examples of basic plant tissue types.

E. Genetics:

Apply the basic terminology of genetics and how they relate to the inheritance of genetic traits.

F. Microbiology:

Distinguish between the characteristics of microbes such as protists, fungi, and bacteria.

G. Ecology:

Define and describe the basic concepts in the study of Ecology and the effects of pollution in the ecosystem.

Instructional Approach and Methods

Lectures and discussion: You are expected to attend class, pay attention and participate actively in discussions by answering questions, asking questions and making comments.

Learning Outcomes for students can be found on the Walters State eLearn page for this course. Outlines and PowerPoint presentations used in lecture may be available for your review on the Walters State eLearn page for this course. **Students are responsible for printing copies of the outlines used in lecture.**

Reading: The textbook provides a good general introduction to the field of biology. Most of the topics that are approached in the class are covered by the book. Thus, it will serve to augment lecture and to provide material for discussion. In addition, readings in the book will support the material that you will be studying in labs. The book includes many things that will help you understand the material and study for the tests, including a list of chapter concepts, chapter summaries, review questions, quizzes and a list of key terms.

Expectations: Satisfactory performance in college courses generally asks for two hours of study outside of class for each hour in class. This estimate applies to an "average" student expecting an "adequate" (= C) grade. Students aiming higher or those with academic problems should expect to spend more effort than the minimum. Should you procrastinate, not read ahead of time or expect to cram everything on last days before exams this course may not be for you.

The Student Can Expect from the Instructor:

1. Email response within 24 hours during the normal workweek. Holidays and vacations excluded.
2. Email during the weekend will be answered on Monday.
3. Exams to be graded and returned in a timely manner.
4. Enthusiasm for the subject and encouragement to help you when you need it.
5. A fair grading system with feedback.
6. Learning that ties concepts into the real world around us.
7. Respect for you as a learner.

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

Biology exams will emphasize factual knowledge and assess the achievement of the Learning Outcomes. Multiple choice, short answer and essay questions may be used. Exams focus on what happens in class as supplemented and amplified by the readings.

Lecture tests are worth 60% of the overall grade, assignments are worth 20% of the overall grade and the comprehensive final is worth 20% of the overall grade. The comprehensive final is inclusive of content covered over the entire semester. Please realize that **all make-up exams must be taken before the next scheduled exam with an excused absence.**

Instructors may require an online exam in this course. Online exams may require the use of computer programs or apps such as Respondus Lockdown Browser with monitor or proctored at an approved location. Testing programs may require the use of a web cam and microphone. Students are responsible to ensure their device is compatible with the program designated by the instructor. Your instructor will provide additional specific details required to complete the online exams in the "Getting Started Module" on eLearn. Failure to use the approved testing criteria may result in a zero for the exam.

Grading Scale

Homework	20%
Lecture Tests	60%
1 Comprehensive Final	20%
Total	100%

A	90% and Above
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Assignments

Extra Credit:

Each professor has the option to offer the opportunity to earn up to **25** additional points through the semester. Examples include, but are not limited to, bonus questions on exams, in class quizzes, attending a scientific event, etc. The instructor's policy will be explained in detail on the first day of class and provided in the "Getting Started Module" in the eLearn Course Content area. In no instance will credit be provided for any activity not related to the scope of the course. The aim of the class is to get a solid understanding of Introductory of Biology so that grades reflect our abilities to communicate the material and not a supplementary assignment or task. All students, especially those that feel they are

struggling with the material, are strongly encouraged to use office hours, send emails, make appointments for extra help, etc. throughout the semester.

Class Participation

Class participation is required and attendance is recorded. See eLearn for additional course information in the event that this course does not meet on campus.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Exam Policy:

1. **ALL** exams are to be taken at times scheduled by the instructor.
2. The final exam must be taken in order to receive a passing grade for the course.
3. Make-up exams will be given totally at the discretion of the instructor for excused absences only (excused absences include illness, death in family, and military or jury duty). Make-up exams may be different from exams taken at scheduled times (discussion tests are possible).
4. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the instructor to schedule makeup exams. Make-up exams must be taken before the next scheduled exam or a grade of zero will be recorded.

Criteria for online, Proctored/Monitored exams must be followed in order to receive a grade for the exam(s).

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

All Division of Natural Science courses prohibit academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, plagiarism and cheating. The minimum penalty is a grade of "0" (zero) on the examination or assignment. Academic dishonesty may also result in a grade of "F" for the course.

Academic Program Standards/Policies/Accreditation Information

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. Instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus.

Instructor Specific Information

Late assignments/quizzes are not accepted without an excused absence as outlined in the exam policy and will result in a zero for that assignment; work is not an excused absence. Make-up exams may be in a different format than original exam.

You are required to attend on campus class meetings according to the schedule provided in the eLearn course. Alternative means for attending virtually rather than on campus will not be provided when the course meets in person.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions). Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.

- f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.
3. The use of any generative artificial intelligence (AI) tool, such as OpenAI's ChatGPT, Google's Bard, or any other pre-trained language model (commonly referred to as "chatbot"), must be cited for any assignment where it has been used and may not be used unless specifically allowed by your instructor. Please see your instructor or the course policies within the syllabus if you have questions.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920
- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.walters.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.walters.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](https://www.walters.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](#)
helpdesk.ws.edu

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/student-services/disability/

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](#)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](#)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.
- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a

student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/home/)
[ws.edu/home/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/home/)

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/)
<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](https://twitter.com/waltersstate)
<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/set/)
[ws.edu/set/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/set/)

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#).

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy](#) ([opens in new window](#)).