

Biology 1020 Biodiversity Biology Lab
Fall Semester 2015
Biology Department, College of Arts and Sciences
Valdosta State University

Instructor: Dr. Teresa H. Doscher

Office: Science Building 1098

Office Hours: M 2:00 – 3:15pm or by appointment

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Room: Science Building 1047

Midterm: October 8, 2015 This is the last day to drop this course and receive a ~~w~~ grade (W).

Credit Hours: 1

Course Description:

Bio 1020L Biodiversity Lab

Co-requisite: Bio 1010. This course cannot be taken for credit toward the major in biology. An introduction to the diversity of life on earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationships.

Course Objectives This course is designed to accompany Bio 1010 by presenting exercises that emphasize an introduction to the diversity of life on Earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationships. Students will participate in the process of scientific inquiry by asking scientific questions, developing hypotheses, predicting outcomes of experiments, collecting and interpreting data and drawing conclusions from results.

Learning Goal: Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.

Materials: The lab manual and text are mandatory.

Lab Manual: Biology 1020L Biodiversity Lab: The Evolution and Diversity of Life by Teresa H. Doscher

It can be purchased at the VSU Bookstore. It is a loose leaf, 3 hole punched manual so you will need to put it in a small ring binder along with some extra loose leaf paper for taking notes.

This class will be held on the following dates. This must be in the week the lab is scheduled. As per University

policy; a student who misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes of a course will be subject to receiving FAILING grade in the course. (3 missed labs) If you are 10 minutes late to lab you will be turned away from the lab. It will be your responsibility to contact me after class to arrange your attendance in another lab.

Lab Make-up Policy: The privilege of making up a lab is not guaranteed. A lab exercise **MAY ONLY BE MADE UP DURING THE WEEK IT IS SCHEDULED.** Students with lab scheduled late in the week must be especially cautious since the number of subsequent labs for the week may be few. Prior to attending another lab, the student is responsible for obtaining written permission from BOTH his/her instructor and the other lab instructor. It is possible that the other instructor's lab is full and you will not be able to attend that lab. If this procedure is not followed, the student will be turned away from the other lab. The student should ~~return~~ **return** to the other lab instructor to give a note to his/her instructor verifying the student's attendance. The instructor will determine validity of excuses. **ONLY ONE (1) MAKE UP WILL BE ALLOWED PER SEMESTER.**

Grading: Your final grade will be determined by laboratory quizzes, laboratory reports, homework assignments and daily participation grades. You will be told at the end of each lab what you will be responsible for the next lab period; whether it be a quiz or homework to turn in. Quizzes are given at the beginning of each lab. If you are late to class or miss the class, you will not be able to make up the quiz.

MAKE UP QUIZZES ARE NOT GIVEN SO DON'T ASK.

The lowest quiz or assignment grade will be dropped when calculating the student's final grade. If you miss the class completely, you are responsible for the material covered that class period and you must be prepared for the quiz the following class period.

I will not accept assignments or a lab report from a class that you did not attend. I will not accept any late assignments either. You will receive a daily participation grade. Therefore, if you are not present you will receive a zero grade for the day.

Final Grades: Final grades are based on the following cumulative point totals:

90 – 100% = A 80 – 89.99% = B 70 – 79.99% = C 60 – 69.99% = D Below 60% = F

Cheating and Plagiarism: Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and students. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics.

A student caught cheating on a quiz, lab report, or assignment will receive a grade of zero and may receive a failing grade (F) in the course.

Each student will be required to complete his/her own lab report or assignment for certain lab experiments. Many of the experiments will be conducted as groups; however, group lab reports or lab reports identical to others in the class are not acceptable. If two or more students turn in identical or similar lab reports or assignments, those students will receive a grade of zero on the assignment.

Disruptive Behavior: The academic community is under a strong obligation to protect the campus community from disorderly, disruptive, or obstructive actions which interfere with academic pursuits of teaching and learning. Therefore, any disruptive behavior in the laboratory that interferes with the teaching of the laboratory exercises or disturbs other students or faculty will not be tolerated. Any student that disrupts the class will be removed from the laboratory.

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