



Organismal and Environmental Biology

(BioSci 106)

Lecture Online

Lab Location: BYKH 205 (Wed. 6:30pm – 9:35pm)

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Office Hours: Mondays 6pm-7pm on Blackboard or by appointment in BYKH 209

Course description: BioSci 106 is one part of a two-semester course sequence for beginning biology majors. Covered topics include the scientific process, heredity, evolution, taxonomy and systematics, ecology and animal behavior.

Student Learning Outcomes:

In the lecture portion students will be able to describe and analyze the basic concepts, underlying principles, and mechanisms associated with such biological topics as: Mendelian and population genetics; evolution and natural selection; taxonomy and systematics; population and community ecology.

In the laboratory section for each included taxon, students will be able to recognize, identify and name the specimens studied and for each name pertinent taxa, distinguishing characteristics, important structures and their functions, comparative evolutionary and taxonomic relationships, and unique adaptations for success on earth.

Lecture Text: Sadava, Heller, Orians, Purves and Hillis, *Life the Science of Biology* 9th edition. Sinauer Associates, Sunderland, MA.

Lab Text: *Lab Manual for Organismal and Environmental Biology*
by Rose and Dole

Recommended Text: Lab Aid: *Photo Atlas for Biology* by Perry & Morton, 1996.

Critical Dates for this Course

	Spring 2012
Last day to add class:	2-21-12
Last day to drop without a "W":	3-2-12
Last day to drop with a "W":	3-30-12

Blackboard Access

All of the course material is posted in blackboard. Go to <http://bb8.canyons.edu> enter login. Your **username** is: <seven digit student id>. Your initial **password** is “**student**”.

Online Lectures

All lectures will be on blackboard with a studyguide for each exam. Please keep up with reading the lectures and assigned chapters weekly. The schedule of lecture assignments is at the end of the syllabus. Any questions can be asked and answered during lab or my office hours.

Lecture Exams:

Items included on the exams will include information from the text, lecture material and any additional reading assignments. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, true and false and short essay. Your lecture performance will be assessed with FOUR graded examinations: three midterms and one final. For each exam you must provide your own Scantron version 882E and a number 2 pencil. These are available in the campus bookstore (no others will be allowed). **Please note that there will be no make-up exams for this course.** All exams will be given in lab prior to the lab for that day. See schedule for exam dates.

Discussion Boards:

Every week there will be a discussion board topic from the weeks reading. You will post a thread then respond to two other classmates. Each post is 10pts with the two responses. Further instructions will be located in the discussion board forum. Please read directions carefully and respond in a timely fashion according to due dates.

3 Exams x 100	=	300
1 Final x 100	=	100
Discussion Boards	10 x 12 =	<u>120</u>
Total		520 points

Lab Write-ups:

Each laboratory write-up is worth **20 points**. Your lab will be checked off upon leaving. It must be legible and neat or you will lose points. You are responsible for all lab material and copying will result in points off of your lab and the other parties' lab grade. **There are no lab make-ups**

Lab Quizzes:

Before each lab there will be a **5-point quiz that will be taken through Blackboard**. This will include information from the current week's lab. The quizzes will be timed and only available 24 hours prior to the lab day. Please check Blackboard daily for announcements. **There are no quiz make-ups.**

Lab Final:

There will be a lab final that is cumulative taking information from each lab. There will be 85 questions and the exam is worth **85 points**. There will be **NO make-up exam**.

Labs	13 x 20 =	260
Lab Quizzes	12 x 5 =	60
Lab Final		<u>85</u>
Total		405 points

Grand Total for course 925 points

Service Learning – Extra Credit:

College of the Canyons has developed relationships with many fantastic organizations. Through service learning you can volunteer at an organization of your choice for 20 hours. This will earn you **20 pts of extra credit** in the class. You can also include this valuable experience on your resume. **To participate in this program you will need to attend an orientation, fulfill the 20 hour requirement, and provide a typewritten report of your experience.** To view a list of participating organizations go to www.canyons.edu/offices/sl/sl_agencies/agencies_a.asp.

Biology Computer Lab – Extra Credit

The Biology Department has a computer lab specifically for students taking Biology courses. If you choose to use the computer lab and **accrue 25 hours** you can earn **20 points of extra credit**.

Other Extra Credit may arise though the semester and will be announced. **IMPORTANT you may only acquire a total of 40points extra credit throughout the semester.**

Your final grade will be calculated and letter grades will be determined. Extra credit points will be added to your final tally.

Class Atmosphere

We need to foster an environment of enthusiasm, dedication and exploration. To ensure this, any activity that does not facilitate a functional learning environment will not be tolerated and the student or students will be asked to leave the classroom. Examples of undesirable disruptive behavior include, but are not limited to: cell phone activity, talking out of turn and disrespect.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

Academic dishonesty and plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course and will be dealt with to the full extent allowed by the College: “Cheating or plagiarism in connection with an academic program at a campus is listed as an offense for which a student may be expelled, suspended, or given a less severe disciplinary sanction.” Any student caught cheating will immediately receive a failing grade (F) for this course. Cheating includes talking during an exam, passing notes during an exam, copying from another student’s exam or work, producing unoriginal work (i.e., copying directly from a text and not citing), using cheat sheets or other forms of unauthorized written or verbal sources on an exam or receiving answer signals from another student during an exam, etc.