

SYLLABUS

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION BIOL 1408 1409-344 GENERAL BIOLOGY I (NON-MAJORS) FALL 2026, Spring 2027

Instructor: Leon Pope MS Biology
Texas Tech University

Classes are 6-9 PM Mondays and Thursdays

Cell Phone 549-6265 (Preferred) Use texting

E-mail: lpop@windstream.net

All contact (Announcements, notes, quizzes, assignments) will be given in class.

If you miss class, Assignments (Current and Turn ins) are in tray @ Brownfield Dual Credit Room

Course Description: This general biology course is devoted to principles shared by all organisms. These principles are cell biology, energy, genetics, evolution, and ecology.

This course is suitable as a required lab science for

NON-BIOLOGY MAJORS.

**Check with the school you plan to attend to make sure this course will count.
Your hours and grades will transfer to non-science classes.**

Course Implementation:

PREREQUISITE: Satisfy enrollment requirements of SPC.

CREDIT: 4 semester hours per semester

Course Objectives:

- A. To introduce basic biological principles through an integrated approach.
- B. To investigate the cellular processes of living organisms with an emphasis on biological chemistry applications.
- C. To investigate the unifying themes and key concepts of the different types of organisms.
- D. To acquaint the student with the anatomy, function, genetics and evolution of different types of organisms.
- E. To instill an appreciation of the variety and diversity of major organism groups.
- G. To allow laboratory investigation of topics covered.

Policies, Procedures and Rules:

This course will be conducted according to the policies and procedures of SPC and the BHS Student Handbook.

Tardy Policy: Excessive tardiness will not be tolerated. A student who is consistently tardy, disturbs class, is disrespectful or rude, and will be withdrawn (dropped) from the class!

Grades:

Exams: Major exams will be given every class during the semester. The exams will be announced in advance and will be divided between lab and lecture material. Each exam is worth 100 points.

Quizzes: Through out the semester there will be weekly quizzes or test preps over current material being covered. Most of the quizzes will be announced in advance, and are over the previous class time lecture, lab material, or from assigned readings.

These quizzes are designed to make sure the students are keeping up with the class work, which I believe is vital to successfully completing this course.

Lab Grades: Grades will be given for lab activities and assignments

If it is known in advance that an absence will occur on an exam date, and the instructor is notified **ahead of time**, it may be possible, under special circumstances, to take the exam at an alternate time. Otherwise the missed exam will count as a zero when computing the semester average, Due to the complexity and time involved in setting up lab exams with microscopes and specimens involved, this policy is rigidly adhered to. **DO NOT MISS EXAMS!!!**

Some labs will be dry or paper labs or study guides to finish with lab partners.

Summary of Grades:

Grade type	Percentage of grade
Major Exams	60
Quizzes	10/ Participation
Lab Grades	30
TOTAL	100%

Grading Policy:

Final semester average of 90 or above = A

Final semester average of 80-89 = B

Final semester average of 70-79 = C

Final semester average of 60-69 = F

Students with disabilities:

Any student with disabilities or special needs should identify themselves the first week of class. I will do everything in my power to accommodate any special needs. The student is responsible for providing the necessary documentation from the SPC Special Services office.

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Special Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made

in accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Special Services Coordinator.

Academic Integrity: It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. **The attempt of any student to present as his own any work, which he has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.**

Dishonesty (cheating) of any kind on examinations and quizzes on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination or quiz, obtaining information during an exam from the textbook or from the exam paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in an office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of any and all phases of course work as his own.

Dismissal Policy: A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. It is assumed that obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity, and common sense will guide the actions of each member of this class. Any student who fails to perform to expected standards will be asked to withdraw from the class.

Electronic devices (cell phones, text messaging devices, music devices, etc): ALL electronic devices need to be in the off and/or silent mode -- no vibrating either. All electronic devices will be put away during class including exams (pocket, backpack, purse, etc). If the electronic device "rings" or "buzzes", is being used during class for text messaging or a student gets up from class to answer a phone call, **5 points** will be deducted from the students next major exam grade per incident. If the electronic device "rings" or "buzzes" during a Major Exam the student will get a **zero** for that exam.

Privacy:

The federal law guaranteeing student privacy is the policy of this professor as well as that of SPC. This means that I will not discuss your grade with anyone other than you (which means that I will NOT discuss your grade with your parents, guardians, friends, etc.)

Diversity Statement:

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Attitude

It is designed with some "fun" along the way. **This course is about effort**, if you plan, work hard, and have a positive attitude, you will do fine.

ADA Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office through the Guidance and Counseling Centers at Reese Center (Building 8) 716-4606, or Levelland (Student Services Building) 716-2577.

For Brownfield HS Students, contact counselor.

**TEXTBOOK Campbell Biology Concepts and Connections 10th. Ed.
Lab Notebook Photo Atlas for Biology Perry and Morton.**

***** (You will not need to purchase these Books or Manuals.
I will furnish the needed printed materials)**

Syllabus Policy

Artificial Intelligence Statement & Procedure for Academic Integrity

I have an ethical responsibility to ensure that all students receive credit for only work that they have originally and ethically produced, and the learning outcomes of Biol 1408,9 rely on your own original reading, writing, and thinking. It is simply not possible or ethical to use generative AI and accomplish these goals in our course. Accordingly, you're expected to refrain from all usage of generative AI in the production of your work.

This includes (but is not limited to) using AI for any of the following:

- **To generate words, phrases, or sentences use in an assignment**
- **To generate ideas, claims, or interpretations in substitute of original thinking**
- **To outline, organize, or otherwise direct the composition of your own work**
- **To spin, elevate, enhance, or rewrite your own originally produced work**

Our course uses an extensive set of tools to analyze machine language mechanics against original language.

This includes the use of the most reliable AI detection platforms currently available, linguistic data, comparative writer analytics, and LLM output testing.

Any work containing indications of AI involvement must be verified as original to receive credit via Google Doc edit history, verbal review, and language analysis.

If authorship cannot be verified after exhausting all of these methods, the work is determined to be not ethically produced and therefore ineligible for credit, and it receives a zero.

As a student writer in the age of AI, it is your responsibility to protect the integrity of your work and ensure complete ownership of the ideas and language therein.

Students have the right to decline a verbal review. If a request for verbal review is not answered within a week, it will be assumed that the student has chosen the option to decline.

In doing so, the assignment is considered a first violation of the integrity standards of the course and assigned a zero.