

BIO 1409 (4:3:3)
Department: Science
Discipline: Biology
Course Number: Biol 1409
Course Title: General Biology for Non-Science Majors II
Campus: Lubbock-Cooper High School
Instructor: Kandice Patton
EMAIL: kpatton@lcisd.net

Spring 2026

Course Information

For emails: Please include the course number (1409) in the subject. I generally try to respond promptly to emails. Evening or Weekend response times will be delayed. I respond to emails received on Weekends on Monday.

Course Description: A survey of fundamental principles of living organisms including physical and chemical properties of life, organization, function, evolutionary adaptation, and classification. This is a part of a two-semester set of classes - though the other semester is not required. The main topics of this semester include the diversity of life, ecology and animal plant structure/ function. This course partially satisfies a Core Curriculum Requirement: Life and Physical Sciences Foundational Component Area (030). Core Curriculum Objectives addressed: Communication skills, Critical thinking skills, Empirical and quantitative competency skills, Teamwork, Personal responsibility, Social responsibility.

Course Implementation:

PREREQUISITE: None. CREDIT: Four semester hours

RECOMMENDED TEXT: Biology 2e from openstax.org

Blackboard: Current grades, course information, lecture notes, links etc. will be available on Blackboard, accessed through <https://southplainscollege.blackboard.com>. You are responsible for checking Blackboard regularly.

Emails and Announcements: If needed I will send announcements or reminders via google classroom. You are responsible for any information that is in the announcements or sent to your SPC email by me or the college, so please check them regularly.

Grading:

EXAMS: There will be three mid-term lecture exams given during the semester and a comprehensive final. These will be primarily multiple choice and true or false, but may include fill-in-the blank, short answer, and essay questions.

Do not miss exams. If you know in advance that you will be unavoidably absent on an exam date, notify the instructor ahead of time. It may be possible to take the exam at an alternate time. If you miss an exam due to an unforeseen circumstance and do not contact me within 24 hours, I will not consider a makeup exam. Failure to notify me will result in a zero for the exam.

IN-CLASS QUIZZES: There will be quizzes at the beginning of most classes that will address the previous lectures and lab. If you are late for class your quiz grade will suffer.

LAB GRADES: Based on assignments, attendance and exams taken in the lab.

GRADING SUMMARY

Grade Type	Percentage of Grade
Exams	60 %
In-Class Quizzes	20 %
Lab Exams /Assignments	20 %

Grading scale: Final semester average 90-100 = A; 80-89 =B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; <60 = F.

April 30, 2026 Last day to drop Spring courses

Policies, Procedures and Rules

This course will be conducted according to the policies and procedures of the South Plains College Student Handbook and General Catalog.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend frequently in order to be successful in this course.

Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment. This is in accordance with the policies set forth in the SPC General Catalog. This course information sheet contains the schedule of lectures and labs. If you are unable to finish this course, complete a withdrawal slip at the registrar's office.

Dropping a Course: Students may drop courses through Texan Connect, the Admissions and Records Office, or Advising and Testing Center through the late registration period.

After late registration has closed, a student must complete the online Student Initiated Drop Request to drop a course. Students may also drop courses in person at any campus location by completing a Student Initiated Drop Form. Complete a Student Initiated Drop Form and return the signed form to the Levelland Admissions and Records Office, the Student Support Center at the Lubbock Downtown Center, the Lubbock Career and Technical Center, or Plainview Center. You must have a picture ID to complete the drop.

A mark of “W” will be given for student-initiated drops that occur prior to and through the last day to drop as indicated in the online Academic Calendar found here:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/academiccalendar/index.php>.

Syllabus Statements: For information about Artificial Intelligence, Disabilities, Non-Discrimination, Intellectual Exchange, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations, CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team, Campus Concealed Carry, and COVID-19, please use this link:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Students are expected to do their own work on all projects, quizzes, assignments, examinations, and papers. Failure to comply with this policy may result in an F for the assignment and can result in an F or X for the course, if circumstances warrant.

Plagiarism violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Submitting work that has been purchased, borrowed, or downloaded from another student or an online term paper site.
2. Cutting and pasting together information from books, articles, other papers, or online sites without providing proper documentation;
3. Using direct quotations (three or more words) from a source without showing them to be direct quotations and citing them; or
4. Missing in-text citations.
5. Violating the Artificial Intelligence policy, as outlined in the syllabus. For more information on AI, please reference this in the syllabus statements:

<https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Student Code of Conduct Policy: Any successful learning experience requires mutual respect on the part of the student and the instructor. Neither instructor nor student should be subject to others' behavior that is rude, disruptive, intimidating, aggressive, or demeaning. Student conduct that disrupts the learning process or is deemed disrespectful or threatening shall not be tolerated and may lead to disciplinary action and/or removal from class.

Lab Safety: The laboratory is a potentially hazardous environment. Therefore, all students must follow all of the safety rules given to you in the safety presentation. The students must also follow any specific safety rules listed in the lab manual and any that the instructor may announce.

Safety Rules: These safety rules will be given to you in class. The safety rules must be followed. You will be required to sign a sheet indicating you have read and agree to follow the safety rules before being allowed to perform an experiment.

Logging into the Course: You are not allowed to give your user ID and/or password to anyone. You will be dropped and given an F for your final grade if someone besides you is caught logging into this course under your user ID and/or password.

Course Schedule: The following table contains the tentative course schedule. All material (including lecture material, experiment material, and material scheduled for the chapter exams) is subject to change. Also, all dates are subject to change. Changes will be announced if necessary.

For information regarding official South Plains College statements about

Intellectual exchange

Disabilities

Non-discrimination

Title V Pregnancy Accommodations

CARE Team

please visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>

Tentative Schedule Bio 1409 Spring 2024				
Unit	Week	Date	Lecture Topic	Laboratory Topic
Introduction to Diversity	1	Tues Jan 13	Introduction, Life Defined and Organized	Taxonomy
		Thur Jan 15	History of Life	
	2	Tues Jan 20	Prokaryotes	Microscope Review, Microbes, Protista
		Thur Jan 22	Protista	
	3	Mon Jan 26	Fungi	Fungi and Plant Diversity Test
		Wed Jan 28	Plant Diversity	
		Fri Jan 30	TEST 1	
Plants	4	Tues Feb 3	Plant Structure	Plant Morphology and Anatomy
		Thur Feb 5	Plant Function	
	5	Mon Feb 9	Flowering Plant Reproduction	Plant Reproduction (Fruit and Flower Dissection)
		Wed Feb 11	Plant hormones and behavior	
	6	Tues Feb 17	Plants and people, Ecology Link	Test
		Thur Feb 19	TEST 2	
Animal Diversity	7	Mon Feb 23	Animal Classification	Roundworm/Earthworm Dissection
		Wed Feb 25	Porifera/Cnidarians/Flatworms	
		Fri Feb 27	Roundworms	

	8	Tues Mar 3	Annelids/Mollusks/Echinoderms	Crayfish Dissection
		Thur Mar 5	Arthropods	
	9	Mon Mar 9	Vertebrate Diversity /Fish	Fish Dissection
		Wed Mar 11	Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds	
	10	Wed Mar 25	Mammals	Frog Dissection
		Fri Mar 27	Unit and Semester Review	
Organ Systems	11	Tues Mar 31	TEST 3	Test
		Thur Apr 2	Organization	
	12	Wed Apr 8	Exchanges and Regulation	Pig Dissection
		Fri Apr 10	Nutrition and Digestion	
	13	Thur Apr 16	Reproductive system	Pig Dissection
	14	Mon Apr 20	Circulation and Respiration	
		Fri Apr 24	Immune System	
	15	Thur Apr 30	Final Review	
Mon May 4th Final Exam				