

SYLLABUS

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION BIOL 1408 1409 GENERAL BIOLOGY I (*NON-MAJORS*) FALL 2025, Spring 2026

Instructor: Leon Pope MS Biology
Texas Tech University

Cell Phone 549-6265 (Preferred) Use texting

E-mail: ipop@windstream.net

All contact (Announcements, notes, quizzes, assignments) will be through
Blackboard @ SPC

For Blackboard support email blackboard@southplainscollege.edu

Or call 806-716-2180

If you miss class, Check Blackboard for assignments on Tuesdays by noon.

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.

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 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 A student who is consistently tardy, disturbs class, is disrespectful or rude, and will be withdrawn (dropped) from the class!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](tel:716-4606), or Levelland (Student Services Building) [716-2577](tel: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)**