WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BIOL 171 Introduction to Biology I
CRN 64102 * 03 Credits
INSTRUCTOR: Brian Deis.
SUPPLEMENTAL CLASS: Thursday: 10:00 – 11:15 ʻIliloa 123
OFFICE: Hale ʻIliloa 118
TBA OFFICE HOURS: Tu/Thr 11:30 – 12:30
EMAIL: bdeis@hawaii.edu
EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2016

WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide ʻOʻahu’s ʻKoʻolau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

First semester of introductory biology for all life science majors. Topics include: Overview of the science of biology; Cell structure, chemistry, growth, and reproduction; Classical, chromosomal and molecular genetics; Evolution, phylogeny and systematics; and Biology and diversity of viruses and bacteria. (3 hrs. lect.)

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

High school chemistry or college chemistry CHEM 151
Concurrent enrollment in BIOL 171L
Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 161

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student learning outcomes for the course are:

- Develop and evaluate a scientific hypothesis.
- Describe cell structure and function.
- Describe how genetic characteristics are passed from generation to generation and how they are manifested into the characteristics of the whole organism.
- Explain how the process of biological evolution influenced the history of life on our planet.
- Classify living things into a hierarchical system of groups based upon morphology, enetics, and phylogeny.
- Describe the characteristics, systematics, and biology of viruses and bacteria.
COURSE LECTURE TOPICS

1. Science as a Way of Knowing
2. The Characteristics of Living Things
3. The Chemistry of Life: Atoms and Molecules
4. The Chemistry of Life: Properties of Water
5. The Chemistry of Life: Biological Molecules
6. Cell Structure and Function
7. Membrane Transport Processes
8. Energy and Life
9. Cellular Respiration
10. Photosynthesis
11. Plant Adaptations to Arid Environments
12. Cell Communication
14. Reproduction of Cells: Mitosis and Cytokinesis
15. Meiosis and Sexual Life Cycles
16. Classical Mendelian Genetics
17. Beyond Mendel (multiple allelic inheritance, polygenic inheritance, pleiotropy, epistasis, co-dominance, incomplete dominance, linkage and crossing over, genomic imprinting, cytoplasmic inheritance, chromosomal aberrations)
18. The Molecular Basis for Inheritance
19. Control of Gene Expression
20. Regulation of Gene Expression During Embryonic Development
21. The Molecular Genetics of Viruses
22. Introduction to Biotechnology
23. Darwin’s Evolutionary Paradigm
24. Microevolution: The Evolution of Populations
25. The Origin of Species
26. Macroevolution
27. The History of Life
28. Classification and Systematics
29. Prokaryotes

MODE OF INSTRUCTION
The previously described outcomes will be achieved through the aid of the following learning activities:

- Lecture presentations and demonstrations (these may be televised or viewed as downloadable podcasts from the course Laulima site).
- Internet-assisted activities and resources (e.g., Laulima and course website).
- Readings from textbook and instructor's lecture outlines and study guides (lecture outlines and study guides downloadable as pdf files from the course Laulima site).
- Engagement essays about capacious topics relevant to biology.
- Quizzes and examinations assessing the students' understanding of course content.

**COURSE TASKS, ASSESSMENT AND GRADING**

**ENGAGEMENT ESSAYS**
The student will complete two essays (25 points each) that deal with capacious topics relevant to biology as defined by the posted assignments. Each essay will present a thoughtful, objective, well-reasoned, organized and documented point of view regarding each topic. There will be a total of two such essays assigned throughout the semester. Each will be worth 25 points (50 points total). Essays must be double-spaced typed using a 12-point standard font such as Times, Arial, or Geneva with one inch margins all the way around. Assessment rubrics will provide the student with guidance about how to approach each essay topic. Assignments must be submitted by the assignment deadline. **Assignments received after this deadline (but before one week after the deadline) will receive an automatic deduction of five points. Late assignments received one week or more after the deadline will not be accepted and the student will receive a score of 0 for that assignment.**

**QUIZZES**
The student will take a minimum of ten quizzes (15 points each; 150 points total) administered through the Internet (Laulima) during specified time periods (but not during class sessions). These quizzes will address the detailed content and major concepts presented in the lectures, lecture outlines, text readings, and study guide activities. If the student takes more than ten quizzes, (there may be 12-14 quizzes in all) only the best ten quiz scores will be used in calculating the student's total points. Since these quizzes may be taken using home computers connected to the Internet, students may refer to instructional resources (text, study guide, lecture notes, etc.) while taking the quizzes. However, the quizzes will be timed, the student having only 20 minutes to complete each quiz. In general, a quiz will be available for about a week (but the duration of availability period may vary from quiz to quiz). Students should expect to take at least one quiz per week. But sometimes more than one quiz will be posted at the same time. **No make-up quizzes for missed quizzes will be administered for ANY REASON, including illness or family emergency (the student will receive no score for missed quizzes). Quizzes missed or receiving zeros or low scores because of computer and/or Internet problems may not be made up either. The student should also note that quizzes are only reviewable from the course Laulima site if the student has taken them. The student should not expect to be able to review quizzes that the student has not accessed from the course Laulima site during the quiz availability period.**

**EXAMINATIONS**
The student will take two non-cumulative midterm examinations (100 points each) and a cumulative final examination (150 points) to demonstrate understanding of information presented
primarily during lectures. The first midterm examination will cover information presented during the first third of the course. The second midterm examination will cover information presented during the second third of the course. Two thirds of the final examination will emphasize the final third of the course, while one third of the final will draw on information covered during the first and second thirds of the course. The closed-book, proctored examinations will be administered through the Internet using Laulima at your campus’ Learning/Testing Center. NO RETESTS will be given. A student missing an exam because of a documented illness or emergency may be allowed to take a make-up exam. In such a circumstance, the student should make every reasonable attempt to contact the instructor before the exam is administered to the class (or as soon as possible). While make-up exams will cover the same content area as a missed exam, the exam format and specific questions may be different.

The assignment of points will be according to the following protocol:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engagement essays</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Examinations</td>
<td>200 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>150 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>550 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

- **A**: 90% or above in total points
- **B**: 80-89.9% of total points
- **C**: 65-79.9% of total points
- **D**: 55-64.9% of total points
- **F**: Below 55% of total points or informal or incomplete official withdrawal from course
- **I**: Incomplete; given at the INSTRUCTOR'S OPTION when student is unable to complete a small part of the course because of circumstances beyond his or her control. It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to make up incomplete work. Failure to satisfactorily make up incomplete work within the appropriate time period will result in a grade change for "I" to the contingency grade identified by the instructor (see catalog)
- **CR**: 65% or above in total points; the student must indicate the intent to take the course as CR/NC in writing by the end of the 10th week of classes (see catalog)
- **NC**: Below 65% of total points; this grade only available under the CR/NC option (see above and see catalog)
- **N**: NOT GIVEN BY THIS INSTRUCTOR EXCEPT UNDER EXTREMELY RARE CIRCUMSTANCES (e.g., documented serious illness or emergency that prevents the student from officially withdrawing from the course); may be issued if documented serious illness or emergency forces a student to miss more than one scheduled laboratory activity; never used as an alternative for an "F" grade.
- **W**: Official withdrawal from the course after the third week and prior to the end of the 10th week of classes (see catalog)

Waiver of minimum requirements for specific grades may be given only in unique situations at the instructor's discretion.

Students involved in academic dishonesty will receive an "F" grade for the course. Academic dishonesty is defined in WCC's college catalog.
LEARNING RESOURCES

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES
Lecture outlines, PowerPoint slides (as pdf files), Podcasts, including supplementary podcasts, of 
the lectures and other resources will be made available on the course Laulima site.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The student is expected to attend and actively participate in all course lectures and activities, and 
complete all quizzes and examinations on time.

The student is expected to be prepared in advance before the class sessions. Being prepared 
includes the following: having read text materials (e.g., textbook readings, and lecture outlines) 
assigned for that day's activities and bringing required work materials (e.g., textbook, handouts, 
writing supplies, etc.) to the session.

Any changes in the course schedule, such as examination dates, deadlines, etc., will be announced 
ahead of time in class or on the course Laulima site. It is the student's responsibility to be 
informed of these changes. Students should visit the course Laulima site at least twice per week.

It is the student's responsibility to be informed about deadlines critical to making registration 
changes (e.g., last day of drop period and last day for making an official withdrawal).

The student should understand that "INTRODUCTORY" DOES NOT MEAN "EASY". 
Students should expect a level of difficulty comparable to other 100-level science classes 
intended for majors in the discipline. When difficult concepts and detailed information are 
presented, it is the student's responsibility to take the appropriate steps to learn and understand 
these concepts and information.

Science courses at WCC generally require two to three hours of independent private study time 
for each hour in class. However, because of the nature of the material presented in BIOL 171, 
more study time may be required (depends upon the student's science/biology background). It is 
the student's responsibility to allocate the appropriate time needed for study in an environment 
conducive to quality study. The student must budget time efficiently and be realistic about all 
personal and professional commitments that consume time.

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THIS CLASS

Understanding biological science involves understanding many difficult concepts and vocabulary, 
not just knowing facts. The student should know that the details to these concepts are important. 
In addition, the student will be introduced to hundreds of new words. In some cases, words that 
are familiar in a context other than biology will be introduced in the context of biology. The 
student will need to understand and use these terms in a biological science context.

While the student will have lecture outlines (downloadable from the course Laulima site), the 
student will not succeed in this class without taking careful lecture notes and reading the
corresponding material in the textbook. The lecture outlines are not to be used in place of the
student's own note taking. As soon as possible (best if done on the same day), the student should
copy over these lecture notes filling in gaps and missing information by referring to the lecture
outlines and textbook. The student should carefully review these rewritten lecture notes as often
as possible. In addition to reviewing these notes before an exam, it would be useful for the
student to try to rewrite these notes from memory.

In addition to copying over lecture notes, study activities should include drawing labeled
diagrams or graphs that illustrate important biological phenomena (e.g., the internal structure of
the cell, the stages of cell division, or the anatomy of the heart). These diagrams need not be
works of art, but should clearly illustrate significant information. Before an exam, it would be
useful to redraw these labeled diagrams and graphs from memory.

The student should make flashcards for each new vocabulary word presented (refer to lecture
outlines for a lists of required terms). On one side of the card, write the word. On the other side,
write the appropriate biological science definition for the word. The student should use these card
for self-testing as often as possible. The student should also practice using the words to explain
biological concepts.

The student should do all of the recommended study guide activities and review all of the Internet
resource materials provided.

The textbook and the lecture outlines include useful study questions. The student should write out
answers to all of these questions as though they were required assignments. Students could
exchange these answers and provide constructive feedback to each other.

The student should read the textbook materials corresponding to a particular lecture before and
after that lecture.

Students are recommended to establish study groups and study together. The students in these
groups may test each other's knowledge and understanding of the information. They may also
take turns teaching each other.

The student should ask the instructor to explain the things that the student does not understand.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your
ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist
Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Ann
Lenke can be reached at 235-7448, lenke@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale `Akoakoa 213
for more information.