

# El Paso Community College

## Syllabus

### Part II

## Official Course Description

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>SUBJECT AREA</b>             | <u>    Biology    </u>   |
| <b>COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER</b> | <u>    BIOL 1108    </u>   |
| <b>COURSE TITLE</b>             | <u>    Biology for Non-Science Majors I (Lab)    </u>                            |
| <b>COURSE CREDIT HOURS</b>      | <u>    1        0        :        2    </u><br>Credits          Lec          Lab |

### I. Catalog Description

This laboratory-based course accompanies BIOL 1308, Biology for Non-Science Majors I. Laboratory activities will reinforce a survey of biological principles with an emphasis on humans, including chemistry of life, cells, structure, function, and reproduction. **Corequisite: BIOL 1308. (0:2). Lab fee.**

### II. Course Objectives

#### A. Unit I: Science as a Process

1. Develop competence in lab safety procedures and practices
2. Students should acquire experience in the use of the following science process skills:
  - a. Observation
  - b. Recording descriptive and quantitative data
  - c. Microscope use
  - d. Graphing
  - e. Measuring
  - f. Hypothesis formation
  - g. Quantitative analysis, including descriptive statistics
  - h. Experimental design
  - i. Scientific report writing/communication (*e.g.* posters)
3. To be able to understand and apply the scientific method
4. Perform different assays to test for the presence of macromolecules
5. Understand viruses in relationship to life forms and public health concerns
6. Use microscopy to differentiate between prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell structure and function
7. Understand the concepts of osmosis, diffusion, and tonicity through simulation and experimentation of eukaryotic cells

#### B. Unit II: Cell Cycle and Genetics

1. Understand the structure of DNA by extracting and examining DNA from living cells
2. Identify and illustrate the stages of mitosis and meiosis in animal and plant cells.
3. Interpret karyotypes and recognize disorders and diseases associated with mitotic and meiotic errors
4. Learn how to construct Punnett Squares to predict the genotype and phenotype ratios based on monohybrid and dihybrid crosses.

5. Perform a DNA Fingerprinting exercise to introduce biotechnology
- C. Unit III: Evolution and the Diversity of Life
1. Simulate the process of evolution by natural selection in order to understand the role of fitness in terms of survival and reproduction.
  2. If feasible, use outdoor field activity to survey eukaryotic (primarily plant and animal) diversity in relation to environmental factors.
- D. Ecology and Conservation Biology
1. Describe conservation biology with respect to its role in today's politics and society and the biodiversity crisis.

### III. THECB Learning Outcomes (ACGM)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions, and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.
3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
4. Distinguish between prokaryotic, eukaryotic, plant and animal cells, and identify major cell structures.
5. Identify stages of the cell cycle, mitosis (plant and animal), and meiosis.
6. Interpret results from cell physiology experiments involving movement across membranes, enzymes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration.
7. Apply genetic principles to predict the outcome of genetic crosses and statistically analyze results.
8. Identify the importance of karyotypes, pedigrees, and biotechnology.
9. Identify parts of a DNA molecule, and describe replication, transcription, and translation.
10. Analyze evidence for evolution and natural selection.

### IV. Evaluation

- A. Pre-assessment not required
- B. Post-assessment
1. Grades are based on quizzes/exams/practicals, group activities, and group project presentations. The evaluation methods, frequency and individual weight of each assessment method is to be determined by the instructor.
- C. Grading Scale:
- |            |     |
|------------|-----|
| 90-100 %   | = A |
| 80- 89 %   | = B |
| 70- 79 %   | = C |
| 60- 69 %   | = D |
| below 60 % | = F |

### V. Disability Statement (Americans with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need

services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024)

## **VI. 6 Drop Rule**

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.

## **VII. Title IX and Sex Discrimination**

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.