

Summer 2018: BIOL 114 General Biology Lab (WEB)

Syllabus

Course information:

Co-Requisites: BIOL 113

CRN: 38852

Location: WEB

Time: WEB

Dates: 7/09/18 – 8/03/18

Instructor Information:

Contact Information: Ms. Kathryn Laslie, M.S.

Kathryn.laslie864@topper.wku.edu

Office Location: SH 2109; office hours by appointment only.

Note: this is a web course that is delivered entirely online. By enrolling in this course, you acknowledge that you thoroughly understand how to use a computer and the internet. All class material (except exams) will be accessed online through Blackboard and McGraw-Hill Connect. **You will be responsible for scheduling two (2) appointments with the Distance Learning Testing Center to take the midterm and the final *in person* (See the “Exams” section below).**

Course Introduction: Biology 114 is an introductory laboratory for non-science majors that emphasizes scientific process, biological concepts, and biological organization. This course helps fulfill the Colonnade requirement (Explorations: Natural & Physical Sciences). It is designed to help students attain an understanding of the scientific method and knowledge of natural science and its relevance in our lives.

Course Objectives: Upon the completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Explain the process of scientific inquiry and the importance of experimental controls
- Explain basic concepts and principles in biology
- Record, represent, analyze, and interpret experimental data, and draw appropriate conclusions
- Explain how scientific principles relate to issues of personal and/or public importance

Computer-based Learning

It is YOUR responsibility to have access to a functioning computer with a good internet connection. If you do not own a computer, you can access computers at one of several computer labs on campus (https://www.wku.edu/it/labs/locations_hours.php) or at a local library. **Computer malfunctions are not considered a valid excuse for missing assignments.**

Use of Blackboard & WKU Email

This class requires the use of Blackboard (Blackboard.wku.edu). All assignments, quizzes, announcements, and grades will be posted there. Check Blackboard daily for important announcements.

All correspondence will be conducted through Blackboard and your WKU (topper.wku.edu) email. Professional language is expected for all email communications. Please send all emails with “BIOL 114 Web” in the subject line.

Blackboard assistance: In the *rare event* that you experience trouble with Blackboard, screenshot the issue and email it to the instructor **and** contact the WKU IT department (270.745.7000). You may also log in to Blackboard and click the “IT Training” tab at the top right to access video tutorials and other resources.

McGraw Hill Connect

This class uses McGraw-Hill LearnSmart Labs provided through McGraw-Hill Connect (connect.mheducation.com). In order to have access to the labs, you will be charged by the WKU Store (DSU; 270.745.2466). **LearnSmart is REQUIRED and NECESSARY.** Access information will be provided on Blackboard.

Labs will involve virtual exercises focused on collecting and analyzing data. Please note that online courses demand the same amount of time and effort from students as traditional course.

Recommended Software

This class will require the use of **Microsoft Office** (Word and Excel) and **Adobe PDF Reader**. As a WKU student, you are eligible to download Microsoft Office for *free* (https://www.wku.edu/it/sms/microsoft_sa.php).

Helpful Tips

1. Do NOT wait until the last minute. Complete assignments early. Ask for help early.
2. Keep a calendar of due dates and organize assignments
3. Check Blackboard daily and stay on top of due dates.

Grading

Grades: 100 – 90% (A); 89 – 80% (B); 79 – 70% (C); 69 – 60% (D); 59 – 0% (F).

TOTAL POINTS: 500

Assignment	#	Points	Total Points	% grade	Quick Notes
Exam	2	50	100	20	Exams will be taken in person at a designated testing center (see “Exams” below).
Homework	10	20	200	40	Must be submitted to Blackboard before the following class period (see “Schedule” below). The lowest homework will be dropped.
LearnSmart Labs	10	15	150	30	LearnSmart Labs completed through McGraw-Hill Connect. Late labs will NOT be accepted. The lowest lab will be dropped.
Quizzes	10	5	50	10	Online quiz must be submitted to Blackboard before the following class period (see “Schedule” below). The lowest quiz will be dropped.

McGraw Hill LearnSmart Labs

Labs will be guided by McGraw-Hill LearnSmart online modules. There will be 10 labs composed of 1-2 modules worth 15 points each. *For full credit, you must complete all sections of each module.*

Modules will be assigned on Blackboard with announcements containing helpful tips.

- 10 labs (1-2 modules) x 15 points each
- Each module will contain questions that will be *graded on completion*. They are there to facilitate your learning, not to evaluate your knowledge.
- Consider responses carefully and check incorrect answers by reviewing supplemental material.
- Lowest score will be dropped

Post-lab Quizzes

After each lab, a quiz will be available over the material covered.

- 10 quizzes x 5 points each
- Open for 48 hours, starting the morning the lab is to be completed.

- You are not permitted to use the internet, notes, or peers to complete the quizzes.
- Lowest score will be dropped

Homework & Other Assignments

All assignments will be submitted through Blackboard. **Late or incomplete assignments WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

- 10 assignments x 20 points each
- Typically a summary of previous lab or 1-2 short answer questions.
- Professional language (no txt spk pls) and full sentences are expected on all assignments. Points will be taken off for sub-par work.
- Copying and submitting the lab report from the LearnSmart labs will earn a zero.
- Email submissions will NOT be accepted.
- Lowest score will be dropped.

Exams

Exams will be given **in person** at an approved testing center. You are required to contact the WKU Distance Learning Testing Center (<https://www.wku.edu/testing/students.php>) and schedule your Midterm and your Final Exams. Alternatively, you can email the instructor and request a meeting time to take the exam within the approved dates:

- **Midterm Exam Window:**
Thursday, July 19th (8:00 am – 4:00 pm) – Saturday, July 21st (8:00 am – 4:00 pm)
Note: Saturday sessions are rarely available.
- **Final Exam Window:**
Thursday, August 2nd (8:00 am – 4:00 pm) – Friday, August 3rd (8:00 am – 4:00 pm)

Schedule

Please note: This schedule is subject to change. Check Blackboard daily for updates.

Date	Lab	Homework	Quiz
M 7/09	1: Chemical Composition of Cells	Syllabus assignment (required) Reserve Midterm and Final Exam dates through DLTC	--
T 7/10	2: Scientific Method & Metric Measurements	HW 1: Controls, Variables & Graphing Data worksheets	Quiz 1: Controls and Variables
W 7/11			
R 7/12	3: Diffusion	HW 2: Pillbug Lab Report	Quiz 2: Scientific Method
F 7/13			
Sa 7/14	4: Cell Anatomy & Osmosis	HW 3: Diffusion Lab Report	Quiz 3: Diffusion
Su 7/15			
M 7/16	5: How Enzymes Function	HW 4: Tonicity Lab Report	Quiz 4: Cell Anatomy & Osmosis
T 7/17			
W 7/18	--	HW 5: Enzyme Lab Report	Quiz 5: Enzymes
R 7/19	Midterm Exam Window (labs 1-5) By appointment with the WKU DLTC. **Saturday sessions are NOT always available.		
F 7/20			
Sa 7/21			
Su 7/22	6: Cellular Respiration	--	--
M 7/23			
T 7/24	7: Mitosis & Meiosis	HW 6: Metabolism Lab Report	Quiz 6: Metabolism

W 7/25			
R 7/26	8: Human Genetics & Mendelian Genetics	HW 7: Case Study: Why Sex is Good	Quiz 7: Cell Reproduction
F 7/27			
Sa 7/28	9: Sampling Ecosystems	HW 8: Case Study: Malaria and Sickle Cell Anemia	Quiz 8: Mendelian Genetics
Su 7/29			
M 7/30	10: Evidences of Evolution & Natural Selection	HW 9: Ecology – Symbioses	Quiz 9: Ecology
T 7/31			
W 8/01	--	HW 10: Evolution & Natural Selection HW 11: Extra Credit Opportunity	Quiz 10: Evolution & Natural Selection
R 8/02	Final Exam Window (labs 6-10) By appointment with the WKU DLTC.		
F 8/03			

Student Accessibility

Students who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center (DSU 1074; 270.745.5004; sarc.connect@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from the SARC.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct:

Students are required to do their own work at all times as outlined by the WKU Student Handbook. Even though this course is online, all assignments are to be completed independently and without the aid of notes, study guides, peers, or web pages. **Cheating/academic dishonesty in any form will result in dismissal from the course with a failing (F) grade and a notification to the WKU Office of Student Conduct.**

Withdrawals, Drops & Audits:

Any changes to registration status may be completed through TopNet or the Registrar's Office (270.745.3351). For more information, visit <https://www.wku.edu/registrar/index.php>. If a student fails to log in to Blackboard or submit assignments by the end of the second lab, they may be dropped from the course with an "FN" that may affect financial aid status.

Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination & Harassment:

WKU is committed to upholding the Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault (#0.2070) and the Discrimination and Harassment (#0.2040) policies that may be read in their entirety at wku.edu. Under these policies, discrimination, harassment, and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment, and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson (270.745.5398), or Title IX investigators, Michael Crow (270.745.5429) or Joshua Hayes (270.745.5121).

Please note: WKU faculty members are "Responsible Employees" of the University and **MUST** report Title IX incidents to the WKU Title IX faculty members. If you would like to share your experiences with some degree of confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center (270.745.3159).

The Learning Center: The Learning Center (DSU 2141; 270.746.5065; www.wku.edu/tlc) provides free programs for all current WKU students. TLC offers CRLA-certified, one-on-one tutoring in over 100 subjects by appointment or walk-in and hosts a branch of the English Department's Writing Center. TLC also provides a quiet study area, spaces for peer tutoring, and a computer lab.

For more detailed information about WKU policies and student services, visit <https://wku.edu/syllabusinfo/index.php>