

General Biology (Biol-113) Online - SYLLABUS - Spring 2021 (6 pages)
(Reading of the syllabus and class policies is mandatory)

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General Education Course Content and Learning Outcomes:

Biol-113 fulfills the Natural Science Explorations Category of Colonnade (D.1. general education requirement). This course will help you attain the following general education goal and its corresponding outcomes:

To Use the scientific perspective to gain basic understanding of the natural and physical world and the relevance of science issues of personal and public importance. More specifically, successful completion of this course provides you skills to:

- *Demonstrate the understanding of the methods of scientific inquiry*
- *Explain basic concepts or principals in one or more of the sciences*
- *Apply scientific principles to interpret and make predictions in one or more of the sciences*
- *Explain how scientific principles relate to issues of personal and/or public importance*

Required:

***E-text:** Mader & Windelspecht ISBN 978-0-007-3525525 16th edition

***READ BEFORE PURCHASING TEXTBOOK**

The Biology Department at WKU has worked over the past year to develop a new model for textbook adoption. In order to save you some money, maximize your effective use of your textbook, increase learning and evaluate the best ways of teaching you difficult topics, we've entered into a partnership with McGraw-Hill publishers. By enrolling in this course, you agree to purchase the digital materials associated with this course. These materials include a full access to Connect, LearnSmart or LabSmart where appropriate, a downloadable e-copy of the textbook which is yours to keep, and the option to print a gray-scale copy of your textbook at greatly reduced cost. In order to make these savings available to you, WKU must institutionalize the purchasing process. As a result, about two weeks into the semester, you will be billed the cost of the materials for the course. The nice thing about this is that you will have access to all the course materials from day one, without doing a thing! If you choose to drop the course during the regular add-drop period, you won't be charged for the book. You should note that for this course, you **WILL** be charged for the digital materials. **Do NOT buy a copy of the book from online or local vendors. ONLY the digital format will be used in this course.**

We anticipate that this approach to teaching will result in better learning and a more interesting classroom experience for you. **Look for Course registration method on the last page.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULES (subject to change)

Week	Chapter title	Chapter Reading/Posted PPT	Assignments
MODULE 1	The Study of Life	Chapter 1; PPT presentation 1	MOCK- LearnSmart
	The Molecules of Life	Chapter 2; PPT presentation 2I; 2II	LearnSmart Assign 1
	Cell Theory & Organization, Prokaryote/Eukaryote	Chapter 3; PPT presentation 3	LearnSmart Assign 2
	Cell Membrane and Function	Chapter 4; PPT presentation 4	LearnSmart Assign 3
	EXAM-1	EXAM-1	EXAM-1
MODULE-2	Mitosis & Cancer; Meiosis and Sex	Chapter 5; PPT presentation 5	LearnSmart Assign 4
	Metabolism, Respiration & Photosynthesis	Parts of Chap 6, 7 and 8; PPT presentation 6	LearnSmart Assign 5
	Metabolism, Respiration & Photosynthesis- Continued	Parts of Chap 6, 7 and 8; PPT presentation 6	LearnSmart Assign 6
	Genetics/Laws of Genetic Inheritance	Chapter 23 PPT presentation 7	LearnSmart Assign 7
	Gene & Gene Expression	Chapter 25; PPT presentation 8	LearnSmart Assign 8
	EXAM-2	EXAM-2	EXAM-2
MODULE-3	Biotechnology: GMOs, Cloning & DNA Finger printing	Chapter 26 PPT presentation 9	LearnSmart Assign 9
	Biological Evolution	Chapter 27; PPT presentation 10	LearnSmart Assign 10
	Behavioral Ecology;	Chap 33 PPT presentation 12	LearnSmart Assign 11
	Conservation Biology	Chapter 37; PPT presentation 13	LearnSmart Assign 12

	EXAM-3	EXAM-3	EXAM-3
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EXAM POLICY

Exams are designed to test an understanding of the methods of scientific inquiry. You must check the Blackboard announcement regularly for all tests or exams.

1. **Exams.** All Exams will be conducted through Blackboard that you can take from your personal computer; the detailed mechanics will be shown when the class starts. The exact date will be notified through Blackboard announcement (after completing each module). The questions will be multiple choices, True/False type. Those not having good computer or internet should take this exam from any WKU computer facility. You will be responsible for your internet connection if you choose to take from your personal computer. You are not expected to seek help from any sources while taking midterms. Seeking internet help during this exam will be considered a violation of the academic integrity, and will freeze/kill your attempt. Use of any unfair means during these tests can be detected by Connect surveillance.
2. **SmartBook Pre-reading Assignment:** LearnSmart is the most widely used adaptive **learning resource** that is designed to maximize productivity and efficiency in learning. This suite spans the entire learning process – from course prep to concept mastery – and it creates high impact study sessions that focus students on the concepts that they need to learn. It is the part of the McGraw Hill digital package that Biology Department has introduced for introductory courses.
3. **Makeup:** Makeup for Exams/Final can be considered only on the presentation of valid documents such as medical records, court/military orders (approved by WKU). **As SmartBook Pre Reading Assignments run for several days, they cannot be made-up in any case.**
4. Use of High Impact Practices in the course: LearnSmart Pre-reading Assignments on each chapter (as shown in the schedule above) and concept check pop questions embedded in the PPT presentation will be used in this class as high impact practices for enhancing learning and understanding of the content.

How to study and prepare for tests

1. Reading PPT slides: PPT presentations made on each covered chapter begin with Learning Outcomes for that specific chapter and then describe a subject with possible illustrations. These slides set a nice background for you to focus on learning, avoiding unnecessary details of the book chapter. If you read these presentations in conjunction with the description in a book chapter (for details), you will have better learning and comprehension.
2. Completion of prior LearnSmart practices and class activities will be immensely helpful for the study and preparation of exams.
3. Each chapter of your digital book ends with a number of multiple choice and critical thinking questions that can be practiced for confidence building for the exam.

Exams & Grading Pattern

EXAM-1 (Module-1 Chapters 1 - 4)	-----100
EXAM-2 (Module-2 Chapters 5; 6 – 8; 23; 25)	-----100
EXAM-3 (Module-3 Chapters 26, 27, 33, 37)	-----100
LearnSmart Pre-reading Assignment	-----100

Grading scale: A= 90%; B=80%; C=70%; D=60%

Total Points 400

Grade Computation:

The official - Final grade that is posted on TOPNET will be calculated using the grading scale (given above) as follows: Earned Total Points divided by Exam Total Points (400) X 100. All the earned points will be pooled from the Blackboard Gradebook for the percentage determination. The percentage points displayed by the Blackboard may not reflect an accurate final grade.

Blackboard familiarity: Students are required to be familiar with blackboard functions as course materials and the tests/assignments (except final) will be administered through Blackboard. Visit <http://www.wku.edu/it/blackboard/> for help.

Expectation, academic integrity and misconduct

You are expected to read book chapters and PPT slides every day. I would recommend you to do Learn Smart assignments before a chapter reading. It will be then easier for you to understand Chapter/PPT materials. Chapters are voluminous, therefore, PPT slides will guide you what to focus. Materials covered on PPT slides will be mainly included in tests. Dishonesty/use of any unfair means in exams or any misconduct in the class will inevitably result in a failing grade.

Withdrawals: There are deadlines for the withdrawal. To withdraw from the course, adhere to the *Tuition and Fee Refund Policy of WKU*. You may not drop or withdraw from the class after the designated time. It is YOUR responsibility to drop the class. Do NOT assume that I will do this for you.

Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy:

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at https://wku.edu/policies/hr_policies/2040_discrimination_harassment_policy.pdf.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are "Responsible Employees" of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford your confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Disabilities

"Students with disabilities who require accommodations (academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aid or services) for this course must contact the Office of [Student Accessibility Resource Center](#), Room 445, Potter Hall. The SARC telephone number is (270) 745-5004 V/TDD/ Please DO NOT request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a letter of accommodation from the Office for Student Disability Services"

WHERE TO GET WHAT IN THIS

COURSE???.....

- 1) READ SYLLABUS thrice FOR COURSE TOPICS AND EXAM POLICY
- 2) READ syllabus FOR COURSE TIME LINE
- 3) FIND PPT PRESENTATIONS UNDER COURSE CONTENT
- 4) E. BOOK AND OTHER READING/Practice RESOURCES ARE EVER ACCESIBLE, ONCE YOU ARE LOGGED IN McGRAW HILL CONNECT
- 5) CLICK TESTS & QUIZZES (ON BLACKBOARD COURSE MENU) TO TAKE exams and LearnSmart assignments (Due dates appear below them)
- 6) CHECK ANNOUNCEMENT regularly FOR Exams
- 7) Follow instructions to Register for McGraw Hill Digital Package/Connect as below.

How to Register for Connect:

1. CLICK TOOLS on BLACKBOARD COURSE SITE MENU FOR McGraw Hills Higher Education link.

THIS LINK TAKES YOU TO "GO TO MY CONNECT SECTION- Biol (113) - Spring 2021

2. **Click on REGISTER NOW**
 - Student registration tutorials are available if you need help.
3. **Enter your email address**
4. Your E. Mail is your access code
5. **Next, you will need to fill out the registration form.**
 - Click on "Go To Connect Now" to complete your registration and continue to your instructor's course.
6. **You are now at your instructor's course.**
 - This is where you can access your assignments and study resources.
7. **To Return to Connect**
 - Go to the web address provided to you by your instructor. Again, you'll want to bookmark it to save time.
 - Once on the Connect homepage, enter your email address and password.

Please visit the [Student Registration Tutorial](#) for additional registration information.

If you need help or have any questions about Connect, you can visit our Customer Experience support center:

- Customer Support
 - [Visit our 24-hour online support site.](#)
 - Canadian customers, please visit our dedicated [Canadian online support site.](#)
 - Call us at 800-331-5094
 - Sunday: 6pm to 11pm (Central Time)
 - Monday – Thursday: 8am to 11pm (Central Time)
 - Friday: 8am to 6pm (Central Time)
 - Online Tutorials: <http://www.connectstudentsuccess.com>