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**SYLLABUS**

**ORGANISMAL BIOLOGY**

**SPRING 2024**

**Instructor Information**

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**Class Time Kylie Stover**

T, R – 11:00 – 12:15 pm Office: Dobbs 202

Lab – R – 12:30 – 3:15 pm Email: kylie.stover@reinhardt.edu

**Visiting Hours:**

*Monday* 9 am – 12 pm

*Tuesday* 12:30 – 3:30 pm

**BIO 123 – Introduction to Organismal Biology Lab** is a *corequisite.* You must register for a section of this course.

**Course Materials**

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**Required Text**

***Biology, 2e***by OpenStax. This textbook is available online at <https://openstax.org/details/books/biology-2e>. Online access is free, including pdf downloads. A hardcopy of the text can be purchased online.

**Course Description**

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This is an introductory level general biology course designed to meet the needs of non-science and science majors. It reviews evolution and speciation, the diversity and function of living things including bacteria, plants and complex animals, and the major systems of the human body. The class ends with an overview of ecology and conservation biology. The course includes both lecture and laboratory instruction. ***Prerequisite:* BIO 120/121.**

**Credit Hour Description**

BIO 122/123 is a 4-credit hour course. Over the 15-week semester, we will spend 150 minutes (2.5 hours) per week in lectures (37.5 hours for the semester) and up to 150 minutes in laboratory work. Instructional time includes a 3-hour final exam. Out-of-class work includes homework and preparation for exams, quizzes, class discussions and laboratory activities and will require around 350 minutes (~6 hrs) per week (87.5 hours for the semester).

**The Center for Student Success**

The Center for Student Success (CSS) is located at the lower floor of Lawson, room 035. **CSS offers free peer and faculty tutoring for all subjects.** To view the tutoring and workshop schedule, visit the CSS webpage (accessible from the Quick Links menu on the Reinhardt home page).

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the scientific method. (G II. 2 & 3; U1, U2, & U3)

2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the characteristics that unite all living things. (G II: 1 & 2; U2, U3, & U4)

3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of evolution, biodiversity and ecology. (G I: 1, II: 1,2, & 3, IV: 3; U2, U3, U4, U5, & U6)

4. Students will demonstrate an ability to distinguish between the various groups of living organisms. (G II: 1 & 2; U1, U2, U3, & U4)

5. Students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the anatomy and physiology of animals, including humans. (G II: 1, 2, & 3, III: 2, IV: 2; U1, U2, U3, U4, & U8)

\* General Education (G) and University (U) outcomes are represented by the corresponding numbers.

**Academic Integrity**

All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, and to abide by the Reinhardt Honor Code. Therefore, cheating will NOT be tolerated in this course! Keep your eyes to yourself during exams and quizzes!

Plagiarism, defined as using as using the ideas and phrases of others without crediting them, will NOT be tolerated in this course or on campus! To avoid such academic dishonesty, you must use an in-text citation for all ideas drawn from your reading and research, including research in encyclopedias and online, *even when you have restated those ideas in your own words*. Evidence of plagiarism will result in failure of the assignment or possibly the class. In addition, you will be reported to the Office of the Provost, which may result in further consequences, such as placing a designation of “academic warning” on your official transcript, academic suspension or expulsion for academic reasons.

**Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. This legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Reinhardt University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Therefore, if you are seeking classroom accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are required to register with the **Academic Support Office (ASO),** located in the basement of Lawson building.

**Evaluation and Grading**

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Students will be evaluated based on class participation, homework assignments, lab participation, quizzes and exams. After receiving a grade, students have a week in which to ask questions or to make an appointment with the instructor. After the week window of any posted grade, the instructor will not consider any further grade changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check on due dates for assignments and homework. Homework assigned in class has a due date of one week, unless otherwise noted.

**Exams:** There will be three-unit exams administered throughout the semester. Exams will be composed of multiple choice, matching, definitions, short answer and labeling.

**Final Exam:** There will be a final exam that is the fourth unit test. This final will not be cumulative but will be composed of multiple choice, matching, definitions, short answer and labeling.

**Lab:** Throughout the semester, there will be a lab practical, a lab report, and assignments associated with lab activities.

**Lab Project:** Each student will be required to complete a lab project. Please see handout for more details.

**Quizzes:** At least four quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Quizzes may be of varied formats

– **the lowest quiz will be dropped**.

**Professionalism:** Class participation is measured partially by attendance, promptness, and overall professionalism in the classroom. There are a total of 5 points possible. Points will be deducted for excessive whining, excessive chatting during class, and cell phone use.

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| **Grading Structure:**  Exams………………………30%  Final Exam…………………15%  Lab………………………….25%  Lab Project………….………10%  Quizzes……………………...15%  Professionalism………………5% | **Grading Scale:**  89.5 – 100% A  79.5 – 89.4% B  69.5 – 79.4% C  59.5 – 69.4% D  Below 59.5% F | **Extra Credit:**  Extra credit will be given at the discretion of the instructor; however, it is built into the course and is offered regularly. Students are not to request extra credit since it is built into the course. Attendance to events around campus that count towards extra credit will typically be announced at least 1-2 weeks in advance to allow students to modify their schedules, if they wish. Extra Credit is usually added to the Lecture Test portion of the grade. |

**Course Expectations**

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**Attendance:** Students should expect to attend all class meetings. This is a fast-moving course; missing too many class sessions will likely cause students to fall behind. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. If you miss lecture for anything other than a documented, excused absence you are accountable for what was taught in class that day. Please consult with your classmates (and not me) to get caught up.

**Conduct:** Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful and courteous to faculty and fellow students. Excessive chatting is a hindrance to the quality of the course, the professor’s teaching ability and your fellow students’ ability to learn. I reserve the right to ask you to leave if your talking becomes too much of a distraction and you will be counted as an unexcused absence for that day. As with any course, make sure you know the instructor’s proper title and use it in any interactions you have with the instructor*. Failure to abide by these conduct guidelines will negatively affect your participation score.*

**Technology in the classroom:** Cell phones should be turned off and put away once you enter class. You are young adults preparing for the professional world and should behave as such. Use of tablet devices and laptop computers is prohibited EXCEPT by permission of instructor. Use of cell phones during lecture will result in points deducted from the next exam.

**Attitude:** You are expected to bring a positive attitude to this course, and you should come to each class meeting expecting to learn. Whining and complaining are counterproductive and will negatively impact your participation score.

**Effort:** I expect all students to bring their best effort to this course. The material can be difficult, so you will need to spend time reading, studying and going over notes outside of class. *You will reap what you sow.* If you sow 100% effort into this course, you will likely reap an A. (See BIO 120 Success Tips).

**Communication:** The majority of my communication with the class will be via Remind, a free program that allows me to send course updates as text messages to your phone. Any emails from me will be sent to your Reinhardt accounts, so remember to check your Reinhardt email often. If you must contact me, email and office hour visits are the best methods. If you send me an email, always include a subject line, proper capitalization and punctuation, and complete sentences. It is also best to include a greeting and a closing in the initial email. Subsequent responses may be more informal. *Failure to adhere to these communication guidelines will negatively impact your participation score.*

**Test and quiz makeup policy:** Makeup exams and quizzes will only be offered in the event of a documented, excused absence. *If you miss an exam or quiz without a documented excuse, you will be allowed to make it up for up to 50% of the score you earn.* Students must notify the instructor within **two days** of the missed exam or quiz if they intend to make it up.

**Lecture Schedule and Calendar**

**Note:** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If large changes occur, a new syllabus will be distributed on the course website and through email notification. Some changes, such as change of date, will only be announced in-class or through email.

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** |
| 1 | Jan 9th  Jan 11th | Syllabus Day  Evolution and the Origin of Species (Ch. 18) |
| 2 | Jan 16th  Jan 18th | The Evolution of Populations (Ch. 19)  Phylogenies and the History of Life (Ch. 20) |
| 3 | Jan 23rd  Jan 25th | Viruses (Ch. 21)  Prokaryotes – Bacteria and Archaea (Ch. 22) |
| 4 | Jan 30th  Feb 1st | Protists (Ch. 23)  **Exam 1** |
| 5 | Feb 6th  Feb 8th | Fungi (Ch. 24)  Introduction to Animal Diversity (Ch. 27) |
| 6 | Feb 13th  Feb 15th | Invertebrates (Ch. 28)  Vertebrates (Ch. 29) |
| 7 | Feb 20th  Feb 22nd | **Exam 2**  The Animal Body – Basic Form and Function (Ch. 33) |
| 8 | Feb 27th  Feb 29th | Animal Nutrition and the Digestive System (Ch. 34)  Osmotic Regulation and Excretion (Overview) (Ch. 41) |
| 9 | March 5th/7th | **No Class – Spring Break** |
| 10 | March 12th  March 14th | The Nervous System (Ch. 35)  The Endocrine System (Ch. 37) |
| 11 | March 19th  March 21st | The Respiratory System (Ch. 39)  The Circulatory System (Ch. 40) |
| 12 | March 26th  March 28th | **Exam 3**  Plant Evolution and Diversity: Seedless Plants (Ch. 25) |
| 13 | April 2nd  April 4th | Plant Evolution and Diversity: Seed Plants (Ch. 26)  Plant Morphology |
| 14 | April 9th  April 11th | Ecology and the biosphere (Ch. 44)  Population and Community ecology (Ch. 45) |
| 15 | April 16th  April 18th | Ecosystems (Ch. 46)  Conservation Biology & Biodiversity (Ch. 47) |
| 16 | April 23rd | **Exam 4** |

**Lab Schedule and Calendar**

**Note:** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. If large changes occur, a new syllabus will be distributed on the course website and through email notification. Some changes, such as change of date, will only be announced in-class or through email.

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** | **Assignment** |
| 1 | Jan 11th | No Lab – Add/Drop Week | N/A |
| 2 | Jan 18th | Introduction / Safety / Scientific Writing & Statistics | D2L Syllabus Quiz  D2L Statistics and writing Quiz |
| 3 | Jan 25th | Phylogenetics lab 1 | Phylogenetics I-III |
| 4 | Feb 1st | Phylogenetics lab 2 | Phylogenetics IV-VI |
| 5 | Feb 8th | Biodiversity Lab | Worksheet |
| 6 | Feb 15th | Pig Dissection | Entry Quiz |
| 7 | Feb 22nd | Pig Dissection Review Period | Study for practical |
| 8 | Feb 29th | Pig Lab Practical | Practical Exam |
| 9 | March 7th | No Lab – Spring Break | N/A |
| 10 | March 14th | Pig Project | Work on project |
| 11 | March 21st | Ecology Data Collection Lab | PowerPoint due by class |
| 12 | March 28th | Ecosystem Hike | Participate in hike |
| 13 | April 4th | Lab Report Peer Review | Bring lab report to lab |
| 14 | April 11th | Lab Report Due | Lab Report due by 11:59pm |
| 15 | April 18th | No Lab – Make up Week |  |

**BIO 122 Tips for Success –**

As you can see by looking at the lecture schedule, BIO 120 is an intense class that will require a lot of work on your part. You are more likely to excel in the class if you follow these tips:

\***Attend each class meeting**. This applies to both lecture and lab. If you have good attendance, I am more likely to be willing to help you.

\***Take notes**. Bring lecture printouts with you to class, and write your own notes in the margins of the page.

\***Ask questions**. If you are not sure about something, ask for clarification! You may be surprised that other students have the same question.

**\*Communicate with me.** Let me know if you are having trouble with something, so that I can figure out the best way to help you.

**Important:**

All students, faculty, staff and administration at Reinhardt University are subject to changes in policies if mandated by the State of Georgia. Current policies and procedures can be found at: <https://www.reinhardt.edu/back-to-campus>

If you have any questions, please refer to the website or contact Reinhardt University at the numbers below.

Campus Nurse at Student Health Center - [nurse@reinhardt.edu](mailto:nurse@reinhardt.edu), 770-720-5542 or [www.reinhardt.edu/nurse](http://www.reinhardt.edu/nurse).

Public Safety

**Non-Emergency Phone:** 770.720.5789  
**Emergency Phone:** 770.720.5911  
[publicsafety@reinhardt.edu](mailto:public_safety@reinhardt.edu)

Dean of Students - [deanofstudents@reinhardt.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@reinhardt.edu), 770-720-5540

Office of the Provost - [provost@reinhardt.edu](mailto:provost@reinhardt.edu), 770-720-9102.