TAB – Texas Affordable Baccalaureate Course – Natural Science Competencies

IS 397 Science Inquiry for Teachers II

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The TAB courses are divided into competencies. Within the course, each competencies is separate into a different eCollege course, even though altogether they make up a single course. For IS 1415, here are the competencies:

Competency 4: The student will be able to generate examples of the complex nature of the world from the scientific standpoint (Biology).

Competency 5: The student will be able to describe and explain general principles of astronomy and cosmology.

Competency 6: The student will be able to describe and explain general principles of Earth science.

Purpose

This syllabus provides course information, which includes materials required for the course, the course description, and student learning outcomes (LOs) to help you navigate the course and complete requirements.

Policies

Technology Requirements
This is an online course and the following technological resources are required:

- Computer/Internet access and connection: high-speed preferred (not dial up)
- Speakers so you can hear audio enhanced assignments throughout the semester
- Headset/Microphone
- Webcam
- Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

This course may also require the following:

As a student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Commerce, you have access to an email account via myLeo - all my emails sent from eCollege (and all other university emails) will go to this account, so please be sure to check it regularly. Conversely, you are to email me via the eCollege email system or your myLeo email as our spam filters will catch Yahoo, Hotmail, etc.

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better.   Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

Access and Navigation
This course will be facilitated using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: https://leo.tamu-commerce.edu/login.aspx.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamucommerce.edu.

eCollege Student Technical Support
Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working with eCollege (i.e. How to submit to Dropbox, How to post to discussions, etc…)

Course Concerns
If you have questions pertaining to the content of this course (e.g., questions about an exam, about course due dates, etc.), please contact your instructor, Dr. Haydn "Chip" Fox, via email using the Email tab at the top of the window.

Other Questions/Concerns
Contact the appropriate TAMU-C department related to your questions/concerns. If you are unable to reach the appropriate department with questions regarding your course enrollment, billing, advising, or financial aid, please call 903-886-5511 between the hours of 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.)

Communication and Support
Email is the best way to communicate with me because I am always have it open on my office computer. Even when I'm not in the office, I check it many times each day.

Course and University Procedures/Policies

Academic Honesty Policy
Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource

material. Violation of these academic standards may result in removal or failure. Please see the TAMU Catalog.

Dropping the Class
If you need to adjust your schedule by dropping this course, please contact your Academic Coach. Please be aware that dropping your course may impact your financial aid, veterans and military benefits, three peat, 45-hour, and 30-hour rules. It is the student's responsibility to drop the course. If you fail to officially drop the class, a failing grade shall be assigned.

Incompletes
If you receive a grade of "I" or Incomplete you have one full term to complete the items that remain incomplete. If you have not submitted the necessary assignments by the end of the next full term your grade automatically converts to an "F."

Student Withdrawal
A student wishing to withdraw from all courses before the end of a term for which he/she is registered must clear his or her record by filing an application for voluntary withdrawal. Please contact your Academic Coach.

This action must be taken by the date stated in the Academic Calendar as the last day to drop a class or withdraw. Any student who withdraws from the university is subject to the conditions outlined in the section regarding Scholastic Probation or Suspension in the university catalog. It is the student's responsibility to withdraw from classes if he or she does not plan to attend during the semester in he/she has enrolled. A student has one year from the first day of a semester to appeal a withdrawal refund. Courses withdrawn are counted as attempted hours and count towards the three-peat, 45-hour and 30-hour rules and financial aid and veterans and military benefits.

Instructor Withdrawal
Your instructor of record reserves the right to withdraw a student from his or her course based on inadequate access to and progress in the online course materials.

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. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

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Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu
Student Disability Resources & Services

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Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See 'Code of Student Conduct' from Student Guide Handbook)

Course Content
Course Objective: This course is divided into three different competencies, as list above. Each competency has several learning objectives as follows:

Competency 4: The student will be able to generate examples of the complex nature of the world from the scientific standpoint (Biology).
LO1: Biochemistry
LO2: Cells
LO3: Biological Metabolism
LO4: Hierarchy of Biological Organization
LO5: Organismal Biology
LO6: Mechanisms of Evolution

Competency 5: The student will be able to describe and explain general principles of astronomy and cosmology.
LO1: The Universe
LO2: The Solar System
LO3: Earth

Competency 6: The student will be able to describe and explain general principles of Earth science.
LO1: Rocks and Minerals
LO2: Plate Tectonics
LO3: Geomorphology
LO4: The Atmosphere
LO5: Meteorology
LO6: Oceanography

Pretests
Each competency has its own pretest. The purpose of the pretest is to provide a baseline understanding of your knowledge in this competency. The pretest is required for the course. Passing grades for all competencies and assignments for this course are a score of 80 points or higher. Passing grades for all competencies and assignments for this course are a score of 80 points or higher.

Posttest

Each competency also has it's own posttest. The Posttest is an assessment of your knowledge of the material required for the competency. A score of 80 points or higher is required to demonstrate competency.
If you score less than 80 points on any competency you will have an opportunity to review the material and re-take the competency Posttest. You may take the Posttest assessment up to three times. If you have not passed the competency in three attempts, you will work with an Academic Coach to determine another method of fulfilling the program requirements in this subject. In order to demonstrate competency, a score of 80 points or higher is required.

If the term ends prior to you being able to demonstrate competency you will receive a grade of "I" and be required to complete the remaining competencies in the next term.

Content	Description	Time	Value	Notes
Posttest	Measures your competency of learning outcomes through essay, short answer, and multiple choice questions.	180 minutes	100 points	