



# **BSC 1407- Biology for Science Majors**

## **COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2026**

### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION**

Instructor: Justin Anderton

Office Location: Commerce High School Room A 127

Office Hours: M-F 9:28am – 10:13AM and 3:30PM -4:30PM

Office Phone:

Office Fax:

University Email Address: [justin.anderton@tamuc.edu](mailto:justin.anderton@tamuc.edu)

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

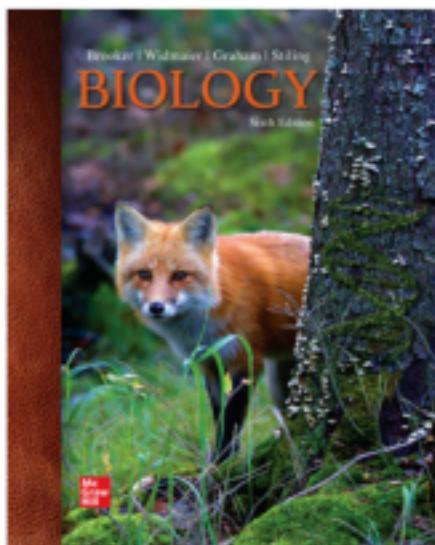
#### **Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings**

#### **Biology, 6th Edition**

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### **BSC 1407 - Introductory Biology II** - Four

semester hours (3 lec/1 lab). This course is the first half of the Introductory Biology series. It is designed for the following majors: Broad field Biology, Pre-Med, Pre-Allied Health, and Pre-Vet. Topics covered include biological evolution, biochemistry, cellular and molecular biology, genetics, and microbiology. Note: Students must register for both lecture and lab sections.

## **Course Description**

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed as the first half of the freshman biology sequence and covers topics including biological evolution, biochemistry, cellular biology, and molecular genetics. With successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the above concepts by definition, explanation, and use of these ideas in examinations and laboratory exercises.

**Student Learning Outcomes** Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data. Students will be able to work together toward a shared purpose relevant to the course or discipline with a sense of shared responsibility for meeting that purpose. Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances or data.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success**

in the Course NOTE THAT This is a Majors-level course, and you are expected to allot adequate time to regularly studying the material on your own- this material forms the foundation

for your advanced classes in the coming terms. You are expected to read all textbook chapters corresponding to topics covered in lecture. It is also strongly recommended that you read the preface of the textbook, with hints on how to best use it. We will not use every chapter of the textbook in lecture, and we may discuss some aspects in more detail than your text goes into so be sure to keep up with lecture notes too! If you miss a lecture, you are still responsible for that day's material- read the chapter, get notes from someone in class, review the powerpoints (posted at D2L), and see me for any clarification. If you have difficulty with the material, feel free to see me as soon as you can for advice on how best to improve.

### **Instructional Methods**

Daily face-to-face course with multiple types of instruction—lecture, texts, videos, and student-led projects. By the end of this course, the class will have read an array of literary forms including poetry, fiction, drama, graphic narrative, and nonfiction. During the semester you will complete several major assignments designed to allow you to demonstrate your understanding of a particular piece of literature and its importance to the human experience. The following categories will determine your final grade in this course.

### **Class participation and lab work**

(preparedness, discussion, in-class activities) Class participation is vital in class. Your questions and comments may help clarify the content for your peers. Group work is an integral part of this course. Collaboration of an investigative team during labs is essential to gaining the best perspective and will be considered when participation points are awarded. Everyone's attention and participation is key to this approach..

## **GRADING**

Students will be given the following opportunities to demonstrate knowledge of class material. The course has a total of 1000 points.

### **Research and Writing Assignments**

Research Topic Selection 10pts  
Research Outline 25pts  
Research Paper- Introduction 25pts  
Article Review 1 - 25pts  
Article Review 2- 25pts  
Article Review 3 - 25pts  
Article Review 4- 25pts  
Final Draft- 100pts  
Research Paper Children's Book- 100pts

### **Exams**

Evolution Exam- 100pts  
Ecology Exam- 100pts  
Body Systems Exam 1 - 100pts  
Body Systems Exam 2- 100pts  
Comprehensive Final- (200pts)  
**Quizzes 10 points each**  
1 for each chapter - 10pts

### **Lab Reports and Assignments 50 points each**

Lab reports (5)- 25 points each  
Participation for each lab- 25 points each

**Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:**

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 70%-79%

D = 60%-69%

F = 59% or Below

**Total final letter grades**

A = 89.5 or higher

B = 79.5 or higher

C = 69.5 or higher

D = 59.5 or higher

F = 59.4 or lower

UNIT	Lecture Assignments	Lab Assignments
Unit 1 1/12-1/18	Evolution Research Topic Selection	
Unit 1 1/19-1/25	Evolution *MLK DAY- No Lecture	Virtual Lab
Unit 1 1/26-2/1	Evolution Article Summary #1	In class lab
Unit 1 2/2-2/8	Evolution Exam Research Topic Outline	
Unit 2 2/9-2/15	Ecology	Virtual Lab
Unit 2 2/16-2/22	Ecology	In class Lab
Unit 2 2/23-3/1	Ecology Article Summary #2 Research Paper Introduction	
Unit 2 3/2-3/8	Ecology Exam	
3/9-3/15	SPRING BREAK >>>>>>>>>>>>>	
Unit 3 3/16-3/22	Body System Children's Book Outline	Pig Dissection
Unit 3 3/23-3/29	Body Systems	Pig Dissection
Unit 3 3/30-4/5	Body Systems Article Summary #3	Pig Dissection
Unit 3 4/6-4/12	Body System 1 EXAM Research Paper Rough draft	
Unit 4 4/13-4/19	Body System 2	Pig Dissection
Unit 4 4/20-4/26	Body System 2 Article Summary #4	Pig Dissection
Unit 4 4/27-5/3	Body System 2 Exam Final Paper Children's Book	

Final 5/4	Comprehensive Final Exam	
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\*These assignments found on the first page of the course. **The syllabus is subject to TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

## LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

[https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser\\_support.htm](https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm)

Zoom Requirements:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-Zoom-system-requirements-Windows-mac-OS-Linux>

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

### Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>  
**Interaction with Instructor Statement**

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Course Specific Procedures/Policies**

#### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

#### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

#### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

#### **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards

of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

## **Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement**

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:

### **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>  
**Nondiscrimination Notice**

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all

federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## **A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health**

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit [www.tamuc.edu/counsel](http://www.tamuc.edu/counsel)