



BSc 1407.01E: Introductory Biology II Fall 2026(4sh)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. JP Slovak
Office: SCI 231
Phone: 886-5368
Office hours: MTWRF 11-12 Please make an appointment for other times.
Email: John.Slovak@tamuc.edu
Fax: 886-5997
Course Location and Time: STC 127, TR 8-9:15

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook: **BIOLOGY(MCGRAW Hill) by Brooker, ISBN: 9781266683633 CONNECT ACCESS CARD 6TH, see Bookstore**

Course Description

This class will cover the anatomy, physiology, classification and evolution of animals. This course will employ lecture and discussion.

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the mechanism of natural selection.
CT #8 Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances or data.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

- Students will demonstrate a knowledge of homeostasis.
EQS #4 Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data.
- Students will give a group presentation on the results of one of their lab assignments and explain the methods, results and conclusions of their experiment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Goals: To give the beginning biology student a conceptual and practical understanding necessary for mastery of the life science curriculum. In addition, the student will learn thinking skills necessary for understanding and interpreting scientific information. This class is difficult. Do not make it more so by failing to study an appropriate amount of time. Fifteen to twenty hours a week is a good estimate of the time you need to be successful. Don't Cram. It does not work.

Learnsmart(Connect) Assignments; Learnsmart assignments will be completed for each chapter covered. This will be delivered through Connect.

Tests: Tests will consist of objective questions. Tests will not be made up unless the absence is excused according to university policy. If the test is not made-up the student will receive no (0) points. The makeup must be completed within one week of the original test date unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e. extended hospital stay).

GRADING

A = 360 pts or higher

B = 320-359 pts
C = 280-319 pts
D = 240-279 pts
F = below 240 pts

Assessments

3 Exams	150 pts(each test is worth 50 points)
Comprehensive Final	100 pts
Learnsmart	50 pts

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COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Topics and reading assignments(chapters) (**week of**)(August 20-December 11)

Intro to evolution(22) (**8-20**)
Population Genetics(23) (**9-2**)
Origin of Species(24) (**9-16**)
History of Life.....(26) (**9-23**)
Animal Bodies..... (41) (**9-30**)
NeuroScience 1 (42) (**10-7**)
NeuroScience 3 (44) (**10-21**)
Nutrition and..... (46) (**10-28**)
Control of Energy balance...(47) (**11-4**)
Circulatory and Respiration (48)(**11-11**)
Endocrine system (50) (**11-18**)
Animal Reproduction.... (51) (**11-25**)
Immune system (52) (**12-2**)

*All reading assignments should be completed within the week in which the corresponding lecture takes place. All topics in the readings will not necessarily be covered in lecture, but you may find question from the reading on tests. Please read.

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

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Zoom

helpdesk@tamuc.edu Contact the HelpDesk to create a Zoom Account. Zoom appears in the Nav Bar of all D2L courses. For training in using Zoom contact online@tamuc.edu

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.

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.

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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/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

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

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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 Services
Velma K. Waters Library- Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5930

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Website: <http://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityServices/default.aspx>

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.

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A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

Counseling Center Services

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