Instructor: Dr. Tonya Huff  
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Phone: 951-222-8180  
Office: Life Science 101-D  
Office Hours: Mon 4:30-5:30, Tues 3:45-5:45, Thurs 3:45-5:45, Fri 1-1:50

Student Learning Outcomes: By the end of this course you should be able to:  
- List the steps of the scientific method, and understand the process of science.  
- Recognize the components and organization of the cell, how cells and multicellular organisms acquire and utilize energy.  
- Comprehend and describe the steps involved in cellular reproduction.  
- Compare and contrast individual organisms, and population dynamics which include heritability, adaptation, and evolutionary principles.  
- Explain the ecosystems, and the dynamics of the biosphere.  
- Relate biological principles to their lives, and interpret their place in the environment.  
- Use appropriate biological terminology in discussing biological principles and relationships.

Although very interesting, the study of biology, with its unfamiliar terminology and seemingly unending amounts of information, is often an arduous task. This could very well be one of the most difficult classes you will take as a community college student. However, with good study skills and personal effort you CAN BE SUCCESSFUL in this course! It is important that you are well organized and stay current with the material presented in lecture. The amount of information will build quickly; there will be a great amount of material to assimilate. Although facts and details are important, do not lose sight of the big picture. After class, review and rewrite your notes – I encourage you to use flashcards. Waiting until the night before and exam to learn various metabolic pathways, genetic problems, or the characteristics of a particular animal group will prove disastrous.

Please ask questions during class should something seem unclear. If you have further questions regarding any of the information, please feel free to e-mail me or make an appointment to meet outside of class.


** You are required to bring your textbook to class – you will use it frequently.

Classroom Etiquette:  
- Be on time. Walking into class late is disruptive and distracting both to me and to your classmates. Also, quizzes will be taken during the first 10 minutes of class. If you are late, you will not be allowed additional time.  
- No sleeping. Please show your fellow students and your instructor respect by attempting to be awake and alert.  
- Turn off all cell phones. Absolutely no talking on cell phones or text messaging will be tolerated.  
- No food or drink is allowed in the classroom.  
- No talking / private conversations during lecture. NOTE: This includes times when other students are asking or answering questions!  
- Be well prepared. Reading assignments are to be done prior to discussing the topic in class. We will be doing several group projects in class together so you'll be working with classmates on a regular basis. Your group will not appreciate it if you are not prepared.
# Course Schedule (tentative):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2/15</td>
<td>NO CLASS – President’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2/22</td>
<td>Intro, Scientific Study of Life, Intro to Chemistry of Life</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3/1</td>
<td>Macromolecules, Cells, Intro to The Energy of Life</td>
<td>2, 3, 4</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Energy cont, Photosynthesis</td>
<td>4, 5</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>Exam #1 (Ch 1-5) - How Cells Release Energy</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3/22</td>
<td>DNA Structure &amp; Replication, The Cell Cycle</td>
<td>7, 8</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>3/29</td>
<td>Sexual Reproduction and Meiosis, Patterns of Inheritance</td>
<td>9, 10</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>4/5</td>
<td>Chromosomes &amp; Human Inheritance Patterns, Gene Function &amp; Regulation</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>4/12</td>
<td>NO CLASS – Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>4/19</td>
<td>Exam #2 (Ch 6-12) - Population Ecology, Communities</td>
<td>39, 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>4/26</td>
<td>Ecosystems, Biomes</td>
<td>40, 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>5/3</td>
<td>Evolutionary Change, Evidence of Evolution, Speciation &amp; Extinction</td>
<td>13, 15, 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>5/10</td>
<td>Exam #3 (Ch 13-15, 39-41) - Bacteria &amp; Archaea, Protists, Intro to Plants</td>
<td>18, 19, 20</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>5/17</td>
<td>Plants cont., Fungi, Invertebrate Animals</td>
<td>20, 21, 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>5/24</td>
<td>Vertebrate Animals, Animal Behavior</td>
<td>23, 38</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>5/31</td>
<td>NO CLASS – Memorial Day</td>
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**Monday, June 7th**

Comprehensive Final Exam 6:00 – 9:23pm

*The date and content of each exam will be confirmed one week before the exam. This is a tentative schedule. Students will be alerted to any changes in the schedule during the lecture period.

**Grading:** Your grade will be based on both lecture (60%) and lab (40%). Grading for the lab will be described on the lab syllabus.

Lecture portion = 60% of total grade:

- 3 Exams @ 100 points each = 300 points
- 4 Quizzes @ 10 points each = 40 points
- In-Class & Homework Assignments = 50 - 100 points (approx. – subject to change)
- 1 Comprehensive final exam = 200 points
- Total = 590 - 640 points (approx. – subject to change)

**Quizzes and Exams:** Each quiz will consist of true/false, multiple-choice, and/or matching questions. Exams will also include short-answer questions. You will have approximately 15 minutes to complete each quiz and one hour to complete each exam. You must bring a Scantron form (#882-E) and a #2 pencil to each quiz and exam.
**Make-Up Exams:** You are permitted to make-up one exam at the end of the semester during the final exam period. This “make-up” can be taken to replace a low test score, or a missed exam. If you are absent for an exam, you will have to make up the exam on the “make-up” day. There will be no exceptions to these policies.

The final exam must be taken at the scheduled time – **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**In-Class and Homework Assignments:** Several in-class and homework assignments will be given throughout the semester. If you miss an in-class assignment, it may not be made up. Homework assignments will be handed out during class and are due by the time stated on the assignment sheet. Late homework assignments will be penalized 10% per 24-hour period for a maximum of 5 days. No assignments will be accepted that are more than 5 days late.

**Approximate Grading Scale:**
- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- <60% = F

**Extra Credit:** There will be opportunities to earn extra credit points during the semester. Class attendance is important for knowing when extra credit opportunities become available (no make-ups for extra credit).

**Academic Honesty:** You will be expected to adhere to the College’s policies on academic honesty at all times. Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing on exams, quizzes, assignments, or any other work for this course will be issued a failing grade for the assignment, removed from the classroom, and subject to severe institutional disciplinary action according to RCC policy. A failing grade in the course will be issued for a second cheating offense.

**Accommodations:** If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, medical, or learning disability that may impact your ability to carry out assigned course work or complete classroom hours, I urge you to contact the staff in Disabled Student Programs and Services in the Administration Building or call 222-8060. DSP&S will review your concerns and determine with you what accommodations are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

**Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class and be on time. In addition to the material in the text, you will be responsible for material presented in handouts, assignments, lectures, and discussions. If you are absent, you must obtain any notes/handouts from a fellow student – get to know your classmates! I will not e-mail notes or presentations.

* Please note that it is the student’s responsibility to initiate the procedure of withdrawing from a course by filing the proper form with administration. I will not do this for you except in some cases of excessive absences during the first three weeks of class. Also, if you miss the first class session you may be dropped. Although you officially do not need to inform me of your withdrawal, I would appreciate the chance to talk to you before you do so.