

Midwestern State University Department of Biology
Course Syllabus for
BIOL 1023.X2A: Introduction to Global Biology Lab

Lab materials and lab kit:

This course includes an online lab that requires an at-home lab kit. This kit is available from Carolina Biological Supply. You will need to have the lab kit **by February 7th** and it is available online at the [link to the Carolina lab kit](#)

We recognize that cost is an issue for many students, and so we will allow up to two students to work together per lab kit in order to share the kit costs. Each student must turn in his/her datasheets and lab reports separately. Work in completing the assignment worksheets should remain independent.

Contact Information:

Instructor: Mrs. Jeanel Georges Insalaco

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Office Hours: **MWF: 9 am – 11 am; TR: 10-12**; or by appointment

Office hours will be held via Zoom: <https://msutexas-edu.zoom.us/j/8697142289>;

Zoom ID: 869 714 228

Class day/time and location:

Each lab unit will open on Monday, and the normal deadline for assignments is at 11:59 PM the following Sunday. The lab will finish during the last week of classes and there will not be a final exam in the lab portion of the class.

Lab work may be completed at any time during the week; however, please be aware that some observations and datasheets will require more than one day to complete. For single-session labs you should allow at least two to three hours for each lab from start to finish.

Item in Lab	Percent of lab grade	Percent of overall grade in 1023 (weighted)
Lab worksheets	70%	28%
Team Photojournalism project	30%	12%
Total	100%	40% of overall grade

The grading scale is as follows

Grade	Percentage
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Lab Calendar:

Dates	Activity	Assignment Due at 11:59PM
Jan. 10 – Jan. 16	Purchase Carolina lab kit Lab 1: Lab Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Order lab kit—you need it by Feb 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Lab Safety WS due by 11:59PM Jan 16
Jan. 17 – Jan. 23	Lab 2: Intro to graphing	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Lab Intro o Graphing WS due by 11:59PM Jan 23
Jan. 24 – Jan 30	Lab 3: Dichotomous Keys Start Team Photojournalism Project (TPP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Dichotomous Keys WS due by 11:59PM Jan 30 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab TPP: Contact team members, select observation area, fill out team contract due by 11:59PM Feb 6
Jan 31 – Feb. 6	No Lab	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab TPP: Team leaders turn in team contact
Feb. 7 – Feb. 13	Lab 4: Natural Selection with Brine Shrimp	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Natural Selection WS due by 11:59PM Feb 13
Feb. 14 – Feb. 20	Lab 5: Succession (setup only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Photo of experimental setup due by 11:59PM Feb 27
Feb. 21 – Feb. 21	Lab 6: Protists and Fungi	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Protist and Fungi WS due by 11:59PM Mar 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab 5 week 2 photo due by 11:59PM Mar 6
Feb 28 – Mar. 6	Lab 7: Frog Dissection	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Frog Dissection WS due by 11:59PM Mar 13 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab 5 week 3 photo due by 11:59PM Mar 14
Mar. 7 – Mar 13	Lab 8: Fruit Ripening	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Fruit Ripening WS due by 11:59PM Mar 20 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab 5 week 3 photo due by 11:59PM Mar 20
Mar. 14 – Mar. 20	Lab 9: Anatomy of a Flower	Lab: Anatomy of flower WS due by 11:59PM Mar 27

Dates	Activity	Assignment Due at 11:59PM
Mar. 21 – Mar. 27	Lab 10: Predator-Prey Interactions Finish Lab 5 Succession	<input type="checkbox"/> Predator-Prey WS due by 11:59PM due Apr 3
Mar. 28 – Apr. 3	Lab 11: Characterizing Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Ecological Succession WS due by 11:59PM Apr 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Characterizing Communities WS due by 11:59PM Apr 17 <input type="checkbox"/> Lab TPP: Send spotlight commentaries to team compiler by Apr 17
Apr. 4 – Apr. 10	Lab 12: Finish TPP	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab: Team Photojournalism Projects and team evaluations due by 11:59PM Apr 18
Apr. 18 – Apr. 24	Lab re-do opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> Re-do lab due 11:59 PM Apr 24
Apr. 25 – May 1	No lab	No Lab

Lab worksheets

At the end of each lab you will complete a summary worksheet (WS) that you will submit as a PDF files to D2L dropbox. These assignments are described in greater detail in the lab syllabus. **File formats on Apple devices such as .pages (Mac word processor) and HEIC (image files) cannot be read by our computers and therefore cannot be graded.** They must be converted to PDF or JPEG before submission. For instructions on saving files as PDF see the document “How to turn in files for this course”.

Team photojournalism project

You will work with a team to complete a project that involves photographing and identifying organisms, biological processes and ecological structures found in an area. This is a semester-long project and you will be evaluated both as a team and individually. This project is described in greater detail under the D2L section for the team project.