



Course Syllabus: Anatomy & Physiology I

College of Science, Mathematics and Engineering

BIOL 1134 Section 105

Fall 2026 | TR 11:00 am – 12:20 pm | Bolin 221

Contact Information

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Office hours: MWF 10:00 – 11:00 am, WF 12:00 – 1:00 pm; other times by appointment

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Course Description

Structure and function of the human body. Anatomical terminology, chemical and cellular basis of life, tissues, the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems, including sense organs. Concurrent laboratory participation with animal dissection required.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Anatomy and Physiology: The Unity of Form and Function, 10th Edition, by Kenneth S. Saladin, 2024.

Note: An e-text version of the textbook is included in the Pearson Course Materials link in the course D2L page through the Courseware Access and Affordability Program. Associated with this e-text, we will be using McGraw-Hill's digital learning tools called Connect.

Required digital materials for this course are part of the Courseware Access and Affordability Program at MSU Texas. Students are charged for required course materials on their student account with the Business Office. Thus, all required materials for lecture are available on the first day of class. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must do so prior to the opt-out deadline. Opt-out instructions are sent to students' official my.msutexas.edu email address after the first day of class. Please contact the MSU Bookstore if you have any questions about the opt-out process.

Lab Manuals:

1.) *Anatomy and Physiology Labs BIOL 1134L/1234L* *Midwestern State Univ* created from *Laboratory Manual for Saladin: Anatomy & Physiology: The Unity of Form and Function, 10th Edition*, by E. Wise, 2025

2.) *Exploring Zoology: A Laboratory Guide, 3rd Edition, Anatomy & Physiology Dissections (customized for Midwestern State University)*, by David G. Smith and Michael P. Schenk, 2025.

Both of these lab manuals are required for the lab portion of this course. As a note, all three books (lecture text and two lab manuals) are also required for BIOL 1234 A&P II, if you eventually take that course.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating, collusion, and plagiarism (the act of using source material of other persons, either published or unpublished, without following the accepted techniques of crediting, or the submission for credit of work not the individual's to whom credit is given). Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

All exams and assignments count toward your final grade in the course and so it is important to do the best that you can on everything you turn in. If you find yourself having difficulties, please come to me for help early in the semester so that you give yourself time to improve. Passing requires 60% of the points (unadjusted) for the course, or 480. Fractional percentages may be rounded at the end of the semester.

Table 1: Points allocated to each assignment

Assignments	Points
Homework (CONNECT)	100
Midterm Exams (3: 100 points each)	300
Final Exam	200
Lab (25% of total)	200
Total Points	800

Table 2: Total points for final grade.

Grade	Points
A	720
B	640 to 719
C	560 to 639
D	480 to 559
F	Less than 479

Homework

Homework for this course comprises reading assignments in CONNECT associated with each of the chapters covered. All assignments will be available from the first day of class. Assignments will be due on the day of the midterm covering those chapters. For example, assignments on chapters 1-4 will be due September 22nd when we have exam 1.

Each assignment is worth 8 points. Collectively, the CONNECT assignments make up 1/8 of the course grade, or 100 points. Assignments may be completed after the due date for ½ credit. Successful completion of all assignments will result in more than 100 points. Students exceeding the 100 point total may keep those points and apply them to their course total (“extra credit”).

Exams

There will be three midterm exams, each worth 100 points. The final exam will be worth 200 points. Each exam, including the final, will focus on what was covered since the previous exam. However, each exam will also be cumulative in that each section of the course builds on what came before. The final exam will comprise two sections. The first section will serve as midterm four, covering the material discussed in class since midterm three. The second section will be cumulative in that it will cover the entire semester, focusing on material that needs to be reviewed (*i.e.*, most of the class got it wrong the first time around). Misspelled words (esp. organism names) and incorrect taxonomic nomenclature will result in ¼ point deductions for each instance. Dates and times for all exams are provided in the class schedule (below) and in the course D2L calendar.

All exams are **closed book** and will be monitored for cheating. Absolutely **no electronic devices of any kind may be used during exams**. All phones and

smart watches will be silenced and placed, face down, on the desk in front of you and not touched during the exam. All of your belongings other than your phone and smart watch will be placed at the front of the lecture room during the exam. During the exam, both arms must be visible on or above the desk at all times.

Make Up Work/Tests

No make-up exams will be given in this course. If you must miss class during a midterm exam period due to unavoidable circumstances, then the cumulative part of the final exam will replace the missed midterm score. Acceptable circumstances include death of an immediate family member, jury duty, call to military service, hospitalization or similar debilitating illness and event attendance required by the university. Routine appointments, medical or otherwise, and vacation travel are not acceptable reasons for absence from an exam.

Extra Credit

In addition to the CONNECT points beyond the 100 points total required, students are encouraged to attend and review presentations at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum on November 19, 2026.

Each semester, the University sponsors the **Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Forum**. In this Forum, students present their research findings or creative works. For this assignment, students will **critically evaluate** three (3) poster presentations or three (3) oral presentations (or combination thereof). This will provide experience in both how to present results and how to critically evaluate data presented by others in preparation for the Case Study reports at the end of the semester. Satisfactory completion of this assignment will be awarded 30 points towards their course grade. No class is scheduled for this date to allow students time to attend the Forum.

NOTE: To receive any extra credit towards a course grade, students must have completed **all** required assignments and exams.

Important Dates

- Last day for term schedule changes: August 27, 2026
- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" **November 23, 2026**
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)
- Refer to the course D2L page for exam and assignment due dates

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all meetings of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. In those classes where attendance is considered as part of the grade, the instructor should so inform students of the specifics in writing at the beginning of the semester in a syllabus or separate attendance policy statement. An instructor who has an attendance policy must keep records on a daily basis. The instructor must give the student a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. Instructor's records will stand as evidence of absences. A student with excessive absences may be dropped from a course by the instructor. Any individual faculty member or college has the authority to establish an attendance policy, providing the policy is in accordance with the General University Policies.

Attendance is not a direct part of your course score. However, continual tardiness – and the resulting class disruption due to coming in late – will be considered and may influence your final points awarded. Cell phone use distracts from attention in class. Therefore, students who persist in using their mobile devices during class, except for designated classroom activities, will be marked as absent.

If you feel ill: Stay home and isolate yourself. Inform your instructor of your circumstances.

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain notes or other information covered in class during an absence.

Recording Classes

****Recording classes is generally prohibited without the professor's explicit permission.*** Such recordings, when permitted, are for personal use only and may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published without the professor's prior consent. Some faculty may not permit recordings of their classes. When it is feasible and appropriate, students may record classes to accommodate disabilities under the Americans With Disabilities

Act, with prior approval of Disability Support Services. Such recordings may not be uploaded to the internet or otherwise shared, transmitted, or published.

Instructor Class Policies

- Students are expected to be prepared for lecture and lab by 1) reading the text, lab manual or handouts prior to coming to class; 2) having paper and pen at hand.
- Students are expected to arrive a few minutes early to mentally prepare. If late arrival is unavoidable, the student should enter the class in a manner that creates as little disruption as possible.
- Student Conduct: Please refer to the [Student Handbook](#) for university policies related to student responsibilities, rights, and activities.
- Analytical and critical thinking skills in both written and oral communication are part of the learning outcomes of this course. Therefore, all writing assignments and classroom discussion responses should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare you for a competitive workplace. Because of this, AI-generated submissions are not permitted and will be treated as plagiarism (Adapted from Texas Tech University statement).
- Students with disabilities: It is the responsibility of the student to first contact Disability Support Services and then the instructor to decide what accommodations might be provided for a disability. It will be the responsibility of the student to plan to acquire notes. Any requests for accommodation must be made 2 weeks prior to the first exam.
- The instructor considers this classroom to be a place where you will be treated with respect as a human being. Students will show respect for each other and the instructor. Failure to do so will result in the disrespectful student being asked to leave the classroom or laboratory. Furthermore, guns or other weapons create a coercive environment that is neither safe nor conducive to learning. Therefore, weapons of any kind will not be allowed in my classroom. This includes guns, concealed or otherwise, regardless of licensure. Any student bringing a weapon to class or to lab will be immediately dropped from the course. It is the professor's expectation that ALL students consider the classroom a safe environment.
- **CELL PHONES (and other electronic devices): (READ THIS TWICE, PLEASE)** This class, as well as your other classes, requires your engagement, and typical cell phone use serves to detract from that engagement. While in class, your phone should be on "silent" (NOTE: vibrate is NOT silent).
- **Other electronic devices (laptops, tablets and similar devices):** These may be used only if you are using them as "electronic paper". That is, if you are writing on them with a stylus or some type. The ability to take good notes is a skill that university students must be able to master. Further, classroom studies have shown that taking notes by hand increases engagement in the material. Simply transcribing the lecture word-for-word (as you are tempted to do while typing) is not helpful.

- **E-mail:** I will respond to e-mail during regular school hours (8:30 am – 5:00 pm M-F). I will make every effort to respond to e-mail sent during the week within 24 hours. Those sent over the weekend will be attended to on Monday. Always include a subject line in your e-mail messages. It would be particularly helpful to include in the subject line the course number & section (*i.e.*, BIOL 1134). Questions about simple matters of class schedule or those that can otherwise be answered from information in this syllabus will be given low priority.
- The instructor reserves the right to amend these rules as needed throughout the term.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Northwestern State University (NSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to NSU for the semester. HOWEVER, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exist in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Northwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “Run. Hide. Fight.” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Week or Module	Topic	Chapter
Week 1 8/24 to 8/28	Introduction (subject, course) Themes of Anatomy & Physiology	1
Week 2 8/31 to 9/4	Themes of Anatomy & Physiology The Chemistry of Life	1, 2
Week 3 9/9 to 9/11	Cellular Form & Function Genes & Cellular Function	3, 4
Week 4 9/14 to 9/18	Genes & Cellular Function The Human Tissues	4, 5
Week 5 9/21 to 9/25	Exam 1 (Ch 1-4) (9/22) The Human Tissues The Integumentary System	5, 6
Week 6 9/28 to 10/2	The Integumentary System Bone Tissue	6, 7
Week 7 10/5 to 10/9	The Skeletal System Joints	8, 9
Week 8 10/12 to 10/16	Exam 2 (Ch 5-8) (10/13)	9, 10
Week 9 10/19 to 10/23	The Muscular System Muscular Tissue	9, 10, 11
Week 10 10/26 to 10/30	Muscular Tissue Nervous Tissue	11, 12
Week 11 11/2 to 11/6	Nervous Tissue The Spinal Cord, Spinal Nerves, Somatic Reflexes	12, 13
Week 12 11/9 to 11/13	Exam 3 (Ch 9-12) (11/10) The Spinal Cord, Spinal Nerves, Somatic Reflexes The Brain and Cranial Nerves	13, 14
Week 13 11/16 to 11/20	The Brain and Cranial Nerves The Autonomic Nervous System and Visceral Reflexes Research Forum (11/19)	14, 15
Week 14 11/23	The Autonomic Nervous System and Visceral Reflexes Thanksgiving Break (no class 11/26)	15
Week 15 11/30 to 12/4	The Autonomic Nervous System and Visceral Reflexes Sense Organs	15, 16
Finals Week 12/8	Final Exam (1:00 – 3:00 pm) [Exam 4 (Ch 13-16) and Comprehensive review Exam]	Review all chapters

