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 4th 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: Dr. Marcy Brown Marsden
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Class day/time and location:
Each lab unit will open on Monday, and the normal deadline for assignments is at 11:59PM 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. 14 – Jan. 20	Purchase Carolina lab kit	□ Order lab kit—you need it by Feb 4
Jan. 21 – Jan. 27	Lab 1: Intro to Graphing	□ Lab: Introduction to Graphing WS due by 11:59PM Jan 27
Jan. 28 – Feb. 3	Lab 2: Lab Safety	□ Lab: Lab Safety WS and contract due by 11:59PM Feb 3 □ Lab TPP: Contact team members, select observation area, fill out team contract due by 11:59PM Feb 3
Feb. 4 – Feb. 10	Lab 3: Natural Selection with Brine Shrimp	□ Lab: Natural Selection WS due by 11:59PM Feb 10
Feb. 11 – Feb. 17	Lab 4: Dichotomous Keys	□ Lab: Dichotomous Key WS due by 11:59PM Feb 17 □ Lab TPP: Team leaders turn in team contact
Feb. 18 – Feb. 24	Lab 5: Succession (setup only)	□ Lab: Photo of experimental setup due by 11:59PM Feb 24
Feb. 25 – Mar. 3	Lab 6: Protists and Fungi	□ Lab: Protist and Fungi WS due by 11:59PM Mar 3
Mar. 4 – Mar. 10	Lab 7: Frog Dissection	□ Lab: Frog Dissection WS due by 11:59PM Mar 10
Mar. 11 – Mar 17	Lab 8: Anatomy of a Flower	□ Lab: Anatomy of a Flower WS due by 11:59PM Mar 17
Mar. 18 – Mar. 24	SPRING BREAK—NO LABS	
Mar. 25 – Mar. 31	Lab 9: Fruit Ripening	□ Lab: Fruit Ripening WS due by 11:59PM Mar 31
Apr. 1 – Apr. 7	Lab 10: Predator-Prey Interactions	□ Lab: Predator-Prey WS due by 11:59PM Apr 7
Apr. 8 – Apr. 14	Lab 11: Characterizing Communities	□ Lab: Characterizing Communities WS due by 11:59PM Apr 14 □ Lab TPP: Send spotlight commentaries to team compiler by Apr 14
Apr. 15 – Apr. 21	Finish Lab 5 Ecological Succession	□ Lab: Ecological Succession WS due by 11:59PM Apr 21
Apr. 22 – Apr. 28	Lab 12: Team Photojournalism Project	□ Lab: Team Photojournalism Projects and team evaluations due by 11:59PM Apr 28
Apr. 29 – May 5	No lab—grading of all assignments will be completed by May 5	
May 6 – May 12	No lab final	

Lab worksheets

At the end of each lab you will complete a summary worksheet that you will submit to D2L dropbox. These assignments are described in greater detail in the lab syllabus.

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.