
1023: Global Biology

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Pierce Hall Rm 105

Office Hours: T- 11 am to 2 pm (in person); Th- 2 to 4 pm (Zoom)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A course for non-science majors that explores how the human body works. Basic biological principles, including scientific literacy, cell regulation and metabolism, nutrition, cancer, genetics, biotechnology, and body systems. Concurrent laboratory participation required.

PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES: None

OBJECTIVES: As a result of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain the theory of evolution
- Describe the structure of prokaryotic cells and discuss their diversity
- Identify the common characteristics of protists
- Identify the common characteristics of fungi
- Identify the common characteristics of the different phyla of invertebrates
- Identify basic common structures and functions of plants
- Identify the characteristics of different types of vertebrates
- Discuss evolutionary history of the animal kingdom
- Identify the scope of ecology
- Discuss the biogeochemical cycles of water, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, and sulfur

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:

- Lumen Courseware

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. Any students who wish to opt-out of the Program and purchase the required course materials on their own must do so prior to 09/07/21. 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.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY: It is expected that students will login to D2L regularly. As such, official roll will be taken several times throughout the semester. **If you do not login to D2L for more than three weeks – or you do not turn in work for more than three weeks – you run the risk of being instructor dropped from the course.**

COMMUNICATION: You are expected to check your student e-mail regularly, as well as check D2L for grade postings and announcements regarding assignment and schedule changes. Because documents will be distributed electronically, you must inform me immediately if there is a problem retrieving them. Problems with due dates and exams must be discussed with me **before** the exam date or due date. The best way to reach me is through e-mail, which I check at least once a day. You can email me directly or via D2L. Leaving a voice mail is the second-best option. If you have a concern or question you need to discuss at length, you can come by during office hours.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Any student who, because of a disability, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary arrangements. Students must present appropriate verification from the University's [Disability Support Services](#) (DSS) Office during the instructor's office hours. Please note that instructors are not allowed to provide classroom accommodation(s) to a student until appropriate verification from DSS has been provided.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Deadlines for all assignments are listed in the course calendar.

Study Plans 5%

There will be 13 study plans. You will go through the reading assignment posted on D2L for each module and complete the self-assessments. These are very important as the Study Plans take the place of a traditional textbook.

Quizzes20%

There will be 13 quizzes worth 20 pts each. These should be done after completing the Study Plan.

Tests 75%

There will be four tests throughout the semester. They will be online tests using Lockdown + Webcam. You must ensure you have a device that can accommodate both.

Total 100%

GRADING: The Lecture portion of this course accounts for 60% of your final grade while the Lab portion accounts for 40%.

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION: All assignments will be submitted in D2L unless otherwise stated.

LATE WORK: Due dates are ONLY listed on the Course Calendar and in the weekly News Post I make. It is the student's responsibility to check both regularly.

Study Plans will be taken until the end of the semester. Quizzes will not be taken late.

MAKEUP EXAMS: I provide an opportunity to take a missed exam. It is always the Friday after the official due date of the exam as listed on the Course Calendar. A late point penalty will be incurred if an exam is taken late for an unexcused AND unproven reason. This penalty is 25% off the grade that was earned.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC OFFENSES: *"As an MSU Student, I pledge not to lie, cheat, steal, or help anyone else do so."* (University Student Handbook). Any student found cheating or copying from another student's work, or found to have plagiarized from other material (or using any materials for an assignment not completed by that student) will receive a grade of 0 for the assignment in question, and may face further disciplinary action according to university policy.

OTHER: [Tutoring and Academic Support Programs](#) (TASP) provides free drop-in tutoring for MSU students. Located on the first floor of Moffett Library, TASP's Learning center provides tutoring support in a number of

core courses and subject areas. Please see their schedule for more information about times and offerings. *Remember that you don't need an appointment to utilize these services.*

Senate Bill 11 Handgun Policy -Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. Areas excluded from licensed concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law (Penal Code 30.06 signage). Please note, open carry of handguns, whether licensed or not, and the carrying of all other firearms (rifles, shotguns, etc.), whether open or concealed, are prohibited on campus. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at: [Campus Carry](#).