

Life II (Biol 1214) 4 credit hours Fall 2021

Instructor: Ray E. Willis, Ph.D.

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Required Text: The required textbook for this course is Life 11th Edition by Sadava et al.

Course organization:

Life II is a lecture course presented as three 50-minute lectures per week. This class contains both a lecture and separate lab component. You must be registered in both the lecture and the separate lab and attend both. It is suggested that you keep abreast of the material and study after each class as opposed to trying to “cram” prior to the test. The student should be familiar with all of this information for exams. It is **strongly recommended** that students read associated text chapters before the first class meeting of the week.

Office hours: During the following time periods, the professor may be found in office and is available for consultation without previous appointment. If you cannot meet during these hours, please see or email the professor to set up an appointment.

8:00 to 9:00 M W F in office

8:00 to 9:00 T Th

Exams: During the semester there will be 3 in-class exams and 1 **cumulative** final exam.

Lecture Grade total =75% + Lab Grade =25% = Total Course Grade 100%

Make-ups: It is important that all exams be completed as scheduled. If it is necessary for a student to miss an exam, **the student must notify the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled exam.**

Testing conditions: Once an exam has been handed out, students are not allowed to leave the classroom and return. Please make every effort to come to the classroom prepared for the test. **All cell phones must be silenced before the test is handed out. Do NOT pull out your cell phone at anytime during the test!** If it is necessary for you to wear a hat, the bill must be turned so your face is not obscured during the test. All personal items must be stored under your desk so that the exam proctor may use the aisles during the exam. Attempting to cheat on an exam by looking at someone’s test is a serious offense and will result in a grade of zero for that exam. Please consult Student Handbook for process of disciplinary action. Grades will be available as soon as possible. **I will not post grades or give them out over the phone or e-mail.**

Final Exam Wednesday December 8th 8:00-10:00

All cell phones should be turned off before entering the classroom in order to prevent disturbing the class. No texting in class once lecture begins.

Grading scale: Students must demonstrate a mastery of at least 60% of the material presented to pass the course as evidenced by their grades on the exams and graded assignments. The scale used to assign the letter grades will be as follows:

100-90%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D
below 60%	F

Class attendance policy:

Students should attend every lecture. It will be very difficult to pass this class without participating in the lecture series. I will announce which chapters we will cover for the following week. I will not necessarily follow the order of the book. Additionally, I will announce tests dates in class once I feel I have covered enough material. It is the practice of MSU to allow students to participate in university-sponsored events, even when those events cause them to be absent from class. Students participating in university-sponsored events will be given reasonable opportunities to make up missed assignments and exams. It is up to the student to notify the professor that they will miss an assignment due to a sponsored event **BEFORE** the event occurs.

Tentative Lecture Topics

Chapter 20 and 12.1-.4 Processes of Evolution

Chapter 21 Phylogenies

Chapter 22 Speciation

EXAM 1

Chapter 24 History of life

Chapter 52 Animal Behavior

EXAM 2

Chapter 53 Biogeography

Chapter 54 Populations

Chapter 55 Species Interactions

EXAM 3

Chapter 56 Communities

Chapter 57 Ecosystems

Chapter 58 A Changing Biosphere

FINAL EXAM

Policy regarding disabilities: Any student have a certified disabling condition should see the professor about making any necessary course modifications as early in the course as possible. Assistance is also available through Disability Support Services.

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 concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to the University's webpage at campus-carry/rules-policies.

Flexibility Clause: Circumstances may arise during the course of the semester that may prevent the professor from fulfilling parts of this syllabus; therefore, it should be viewed as a guide and subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes.