

Biology for Non-Majors ONLINE
Biology 110-502
Fall 2015
Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Miriam J. Chávez
Office: Room 100B, Health Science Building
Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:00-9:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday 10:30 a.m. to Noon
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Course Description:

Introductory biology class covering cell biology, genetics, ecological and evolutionary topics. Credit not allowed for both Biology 123 and 110. Credit is not applicable toward biology major or minor.

Student Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this course:

1. Students will display knowledge of cellular structure and function.
2. Students will be able to explain the basic mechanisms of inheritance.
3. Students will exhibit familiarity with basic ecological and evolutionary concepts.

Required Learning Resources:

1. Text: Biology: Essentials by Hoefnagel, 2nd edition, 2016, McGraw Hill Publisher (ISBN 978-1-259-29498-3)

<http://connect.mheducation.com/class/m-chavez-section-502>

2. Course Webpage: <https://learn.unm.edu/>. The webpage contains resources you need to succeed in the course. Login using your UNM user name and password. ***You are responsible for all announcements, assignments, quizzes, tests and/or any changes to the syllabus will be posted on the webpage. I strongly urge you to check each week for assignments and due dates.***

3. LearnSmart: There is a LearnSmart assignment for every chapter covered. You are responsible for completing 15 assignments; these are ONLY available through the McGraw Hill Connect webpage.

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You will earn ten points for completing the LearnSmart (LS) assignment. To earn full credit they must be completed by the due date. These assignments are to help you understand the material that was covered in the chapter. They will help you do well in the quizzes and exams. You are only required to complete 15 assignments – there will be more available, but ONLY 15 will be applied to your grade. Occasionally there will be an additional “extra-credit” assignment that you can do to earn extra credit.

Course Policies:

1. **Assignments.** There will be weekly assignments that must be turned in by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. The assignments will be based on the readings and will help you to understand and learn the topic for the week. You are allowed to get help from a tutor or work with another student. I also encourage you to contact me if you have any questions, but do not wait until the last minute. *The assignment has to be written in your own words.*
2. **Quizzes.** Quizzes will be timed and you will be allowed to take each quiz twice if needed. You will also be allowed to drop one quiz. All quizzes are to be taken by Thursday by 11:59 p.m. Quizzes will be available on Wednesday morning.
3. **Exams.** You will have a limited time to take each exam and only allowed to take it once. Prepare yourself and give yourself plenty of time before starting the exam. All exams are to be taken on Thursday by 11:59 p.m. The exams will be available on Tuesday morning.
4. **Withdrawal.** If a student drops the course before September 4, it will not appear on their transcript. After September 4 a “W” will be issued.
5. **Drop policy.** If the student has missed three assignments/quizzes, he/she will be dropped from the class.
6. **Study habits.** To be an effective professional, information must be learned and retained efficiently. Studies have shown that information which is “experienced” a number of times within a short period of time frequently goes into long-term memory. Be an active student.
 - Look and read the chapter outline after reading the outline for each week.
 - Read the chapter. It will take you **more than one** reading to understand the material presented.
 - Learn the vocabulary.
 - Look at the PowerPoint slides.
 - Keep up with the assignments.
 - Give yourself plenty of time to study for a quiz or exam.

Special Needs:

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact the instructor by the end of the 1st week of the semester to ensure that your needs are met in a timely manner.

Academic Dishonesty:

Each student is expected to maintain the highest standards of honesty and integrity in academic and professional matters. The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal, against any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or otherwise fails to meet the standards. Any student judged to have engaged in academic dishonesty in course work may receive a reduced or failing grade for the work in question and/or for the course. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, dishonesty in quizzes, tests, or assignments; claiming credit for work not done or done by others; hindering the academic work of other students; misrepresenting academic or professional qualifications within or without the University; and nondisclosure or misrepresentation in filling out applications or other University records.

Grading Criteria for Assigning Final Course Grade:

Exams (3)	300 points
Final Exam	110 points
Connect LS Assig. (15)	150 points
Quizzes (6 out of 7)	150 points
Assignments (14)	140 points

The student's total points will be divided by the total possible points (850) and the grade earned will be based on the following percentage:

100 or higher – A+	77-79 – C+
94-99 – A	73-76 – C
90-93 – A-	70-72 – C-
87-89 – B+	60-69 – D
83-86 – B	below 60 – F
80-82 – B-	



Course Outline

Week	Week of	Chapter - Topic
1	August 17	Ch. 1 - Scientific Study of Life
		Assignment 1 Due
2	August 24	Ch. 2 - Chemistry
		Assignment 2 Due Quiz 1
3	August 31	Ch. 3 - Cells
		Assignment 3 Due
4	September 7	Ch. 3 - Cells
		Assignment 4 Due Quiz 2
5	September 14	Ch. 4 – Energy of Life Ch. 5 - Photosynthesis
		Assignment 5 Due Exam 1
6	September 21	Ch. 6 – How Cells Release Energy
		Assignment 6 Due Quiz 3
7	September 28	Ch. 7 – DNA Structure and Function Ch. 10 – DNA Technology
		Assignment 7 Due
8	October 5	Ch. 8 – DNA Replication, Binary Fission and Mitosis
		Fall Break – No assignment due this week
9	October 12	Ch. 9 – Sexual Reproduction and Meiosis
		Assignment 8 Due Exam 2
10	October 19	Ch. 10 – Patterns of Inheritance
		Assignment 9 Due Quiz 4
11	October 26	Ch. 10 – Patterns of Inheritance
		Assignment 10 Due
12	November 2	Ch. 12 & 13 - Evolution
		Assignment 11 Due Quiz 5
13	November 9	Ch. 16 – Diversity of Plants
		Assignment 12 Due Exam 3
14	November 16	Ch. 17 – Diversity of Animals
		Assignment 13 Due Quiz 6
15	November 23	Ch. 15 – Diversity of Microbial Life
		Thanksgiving Break – No assignment due this week
16	November 30	Ch. 18 – Populations Ch. 19 – Communities and Ecosystems
		Assignment 14 Due Quiz 7
	Thursday, December 10	Final Exam

** I reserve the right to make necessary changes throughout the course.