

**Syllabus for BIOL 1110:
Biology for Non-Majors
UNM Valencia Fall 2023**

I. General Information

General Information

Instructor Name:	Elisa DiMenna PhD
Email:	edimenna@unm.edu
Office Location:	NA
Office Phone:	NA- I don't have one- email please 😊
Office Hours:	Monday 630-730 by Zoom
Course Number:	BIOL 1110
Section Number:	502
Semester & Year:	Fall 2023
Credit Hours:	1
Campus/Rooms:	Asynchronous online
Meeting Time:	Asynchronous online

II. Course Description

This course for non-science majors compliments the concepts covered in the associated general biology lab course. Students will learn quantitative skills involved in scientific measurement and data analysis. Students will also perform experiments related to topics such as biochemistry, cell structure and function, molecular biology, evolution, taxonomic classification and phylogeny, biodiversity, and ecology

III. Textbooks/Materials/Resources

Required Materials

Course Webpage: We will be using the Canvas platform this year, canvas.unm.edu. This will largely serve as a repository for documents that will be handed out physically in class (the syllabus, homework assignments, class activities, etc. Downloadable copies of the lecture slides will be available here as well. You will mostly be able to find these items in the 'files' tab of the course Canvas page.

- OpenStax Concepts of Biology

- Webcam: Use your existing webcam or purchase bookstore webcam (ex. Superflix 720P)
- reliable internet and updated required software by the end of the first week of class

IV. Course Student Learning Outcomes

- 1.) Students will be able to explain the value of the scientific method as a means for understanding the natural world and for formulating testable predictions (Chapter 1).
- 2.) Students will be able to explain how chemical and physical properties apply to biological processes at the cellular level (Chapters 4,8,10,11)
- 3.) Students will demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts and mechanisms of cell biology (chapter 4)
- 4.) Students will demonstrate the understand that all organisms share properties of life as a consequence of their common ancestry (Chapter 25).
- 5.) Students will understand the fundamental processes of molecular biology (Chapter 3).
- 6.) Students will understand the mechanisms of evolution including natural selection, genetic drift and mutations (chapters 18 & 20).
- 7.) Students will understand the methods of inferring phylogenetic relationships and the basis for biological classification (chapters 18 & 25).
- 8.) Students will recognize the value of biological diversity, conservation of species, and the complexity of ecosystems (Chapter 44).

Course Requirements

1. *Student – Privacy and Rights*
 - For any interactive, web conferencing session that may be recorded, you may choose to not attend the live session and instead watch the recording at a later time, or you may choose to *attend the live session with anonymity.*

- To Protect your Privacy, be anonymous, during a virtual classroom session you may choose to:
 - Not use or display your name
 - Not show video of yourself
 - Not use the audio option for speaking
 - Use the chat box to ask questions without showing your name

How to Contact Me

- CNM EMAIL – edimenna@unm.edu
 - Response Time is traditional business hours within 24-48 hours. On weekends or holidays leave up to additional 48 hours response.
- If you use your UNM email to contact me remind me exactly which class you are in. If I don't respond, contact me again! Non-UNM email accounts are often routed by the UNM servers into the junk email folders.

Online electronic requirements

To successfully complete this course...

- Have regular access to a reliable computer or laptop.
- Have regular access to reliable, high speed internet connection.
- Have a variety of browsers installed. Recommended browsers: Google Chrome, Safari, and/or Firefox browsers. You may need to use more than one browser.
- Have a webcam either built into your computer or as an external peripheral.
- Must regularly check your UNM email account and canvas *Announcements*.

Online Etiquette

This course may require moderate online interaction. Students are required to treat other individuals with the same level of respect that they would in the live classroom. Do remember that there is a person at the other side of a discussion posting, online office hours, etc. when posting a response, question, or e-mail. In addition, you are responsible to make a sincere effort that all online postings, e-mails, etc. use the level of spelling and grammar and courteous tone that is expected in a professional college setting.

UNM Campus Open Computer Labs

Check website www.unm.edu for availability and hours.

Other Requirements

- Students are responsible for all materials covered in class and in the reading assignments. Some book material that is not covered in class may still appear on examinations.
- Students are expected to do their readings before class.
- Students may be expected to seek out information on web sites or other books to further their understanding of the material covered in class.

V. Grading

Grading - Grading will be based on:

1. All graded items delivered or completed in class are due as described below and all online versions (if needed) will be due by the **Sunday of that indicated week by 11:59pm.**
2. There are no extensions or makeups since there are so many graded items in this course and there are multiple dropped items.

For this class grade:	You need this percentage:	Points needed for listed letter grade
A	90 - 100%	A 300-267
B	80 – 89%	B 266-237
C	70 – 79%	C 236-207
D	60 – 69%	D 206-177
F	< 60%	F 176-0

VI. Academic Honesty

Students should consult the UNM Student

Grading Categories	Points per Assignment (Some exceptions/are indicated on assignment)	Total Points*
Final Exam	50	50
Homework -6	15	90
Discussions – 2	15	30
Midterm Exams – 3	50	150
Seminar Discussion Questions	20	20
Total Points		320
Points dropped		-20
point total for final grade		300

Handbook) for a complete explanation on Academic Dishonesty. Students who commit any form of academic dishonesty on an assignment may be assigned a grade as severe as a “0” or “F” for this assignment by the instructor, or will be informed by the instructor that the Dean of Students will be contacted to coordinate a more severe penalty for the offense (e.g. an “F” for the course, or removal from a program - in the case of limited entry programs such as exist in Health Occupations). In the latter case, a centralized record of the student’s academic dishonesty incident will be maintained within the Dean of Students Office so that, if future incidents are reported, patterns of behavior can be identified and sanctioned more severely. Sanctions that may be imposed include disenrollment from the course, suspension from campus, expulsion from the institute, and other administrative actions.

The following are some forms of cheating Copying a fellow student’s work or copying a previous student’s work.

- The use of AI for assignment responses.
- Any form of communication with your neighbor during a test.

- Talking to anyone but the instructor or proctor during a quiz or examination.
- Communicating via cell phones with other people during a test.
- Notes or books open during in-class exams and quizzes.
- Disclosing or soliciting examination questions to those who may have been absent from an exam.
- Plagiarism (copying entirely or whole phrases from books or websites).
- Any two students handing in assignments with word-for-word responses.

VII. Other Information

Policy for Cancellation of Classes

If there should be a cancellation of class due to inclement weather or disaster, check the local television news or radio stations or call 224-4SNO. Most cancellation information is posted by 6AM. DO NOT CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR REGARDING CANCELLATIONS.

In the event College closures or schedule changes occur during final exams, faculty whose exams, projects, or other graded work due dates are affected by a delay or closure follow the option adopted by their instructional division.

[College Schedule Changes](#) (Policy) – Options may include but are not limited to:

Exams or quizzes may be moved online, rescheduled or due dates extended depending on the college schedule change (ex. Going to remote learning for 2 weeks vs. a one-day snow closure would have different options used). As a last resort, grades going into an end of term closure will become the final grades.

Veterans and Active-Duty Military Personnel

Veterans and active-duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g. upcoming deployments, drill requirements, disabilities) should communicate these, in advance, if possible, to the instructor. For additional support, you can also contact the Veterans Resource Center at (505) 224-4000 x20456 or visit their [website](#) at. You can also learn about various military benefits on the [VA Education Benefits](#) website.

Course Schedule for Biol 1110 Biology for Non Majors Fall 2023

Week	DATE	Topic	Due Sunday by 11:59pm
1	8/21-8/27	Introduction to Life, Characteristics of Living Things and Basic Classification	Syllabus quiz
2	8/28-9/4	The Scientific Method, How it Works and Why it is Important	
3	9/5-9/10	The Laws of Attraction - Basics of Chemistry	Homework 1- Weeks 1 and 2
4	9/11-9/17	Why Water is Special and the Basics of Chemical Reactions	Homework 2 – Week 3 and 4
5	9/18-9/24	Exam 1 and Seminars	Exam 1 – Weeks 1-4
6	9/25-10/1	Nutrients	
7	10/2-10/8	Cells- the Fundamental Unit of Life	Homework 3- Weeks 6 and 7
8	10/9-10/15	Cells, Energy and Enzymes	Homework 4- Week 8
9	10/16-10/22	Week 9: Exam 2 and Seminars	Exam 2- Weeks 6-8
10	10/23-10/29	Genes and Proteins	
11	10/30-11/5	How New Cells are Made	Homework 5- Weeks 10 and 11
12	11/6-11/12	Sexual Reproduction, Genetics and How Variation Appears in Populations as well as Individuals	Homework 6- Week 12
13	11/13-11/19	Exam 3 and Seminars	Exam 3- Weeks 9-12
14	11/20-11/26	Mostly about Mutations - Changes in Genes and a few other things Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving
15	11/27-12/3	Selected Topics 1	
16	12/4-12/10	Selected Topics 2	End of Semester Seminar Discussion Questions Due
17	12/11-12/17	UNM finals week/ Final DUE THURSDAY 11:59PM	Final DUE THURSDAY 11:59PM

* Since There are many drops in this course, there are no extensions.

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Topics or assignments may change as needed including any switch to remote options in the event of a prolonged campus closure. Announcements regarding such changes will be made during regular class hours. Students who are absent or tardy when such announcements are made will still be held accountable for the changes.