BIOL 1409 – Introduction to Biology II (Online)

Course Syllabus: Spring 2022

"Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed."

Professor James Ward

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	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Online
Office Hours	11:00-12:30 1:30-3:00	11:00-12:30	11:00-12:30 1:30-3:00	Online By Appt.	Online By Appt.	Anytime by Appt.

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:
4 credit hours. Lecture/Lab: Three hours of lecture and three hours of lab each week.

This course will provide a survey of biological principles with an emphasis on humans, including evolution, ecology, plant and animal diversity, and physiology. Lab activities reinforce these topics.

Note: Additional course fee(s) required.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
2. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.
3. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
4. Define modern evolutionary synthesis, natural selection, population genetics, micro and macroevolution, and speciation.
5. Describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.
6. Identify the major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants and animals, including the basis for classification, structural and physiological adaptations, evolutionary history, and ecological significance.
7. Describe basic animal physiology and homeostasis as maintained by organ systems.
8. Compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.
9. Illustrate the relationship between major geologic change, extinctions, and evolutionary trends.

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

Grading Points (1200 points):	**Grade Assignment:**
100 points – Connect Online Assignments (4500 pts.)	**A = 90-100% (1080-1200 pts)**
100 points – Blackboard Discussion Posts	**B = 80-89% (960-1079 pts)**
500 points – Lecture Exams (5)	**C = 70-79% (840-959 pts)**
300 points – Lab Portfolio	**D = 60-69% (720-939 pts)**
200 points – Final Exam	**F = 0-59% (0-719 pts)**

Connect Online Assignments:
Each chapter has an assigned Smartbook activity, chapter assignment, and chapter quiz to check your understanding of chapter topics and reading assignments. These are completed online in Connect which is accessed through blackboard. You will need to login to blackboard on the 1st day of the semester. Students will work at their own pace prior to due dates. Activities and Assignments are not timed. The chapter quizzes each consist of 20 questions with a 25 minute timer. Each assignment has a posted due date for completion. Students will need to earn 4,500 connect points out of the 5,800 possible to earn a 100 for their connect grade. Every 100 points over 4,500 will be worth 1 extra credit point for a maximum of 13 extra credit points or a grade of 113. **Connect chapter assignments are always due on Saturdays at 11:59pm. These dates are firm – no makeups for missed online work will be allowed**.

Blackboard Discussion Posts:
Chapter readings, videos, and discussions will be assigned to check your understanding of chapter topics. These are completed online in blackboard chapter content folders. Students will critically write scientifically by participating via posts in discussion board threads for each chapter. Students will post an initial response to each chapter discussion thread by **Wednesday** of each week with 2 follow up posts replying to other students posts by **Friday** each week. Each post must be a minimum of 100 words and contain and least 2 scientific points for credit. The sum of all posts will determine the discussion board grade.

Lecture Tests/Exams:
The lecture exams may include both objective questions (multiple choice, matching, etc.) over text materials, and readings as well as descriptive questions requiring detailed explanations over broad themes. Success on the exams is a function of anxiety regulation, test prep, study strategies, and studying for retention. Retention requires repetitions, which requires time! The 5 unit exams will be accessed through blackboard. They will be completed **online via Connect monitored by Proctorio**. Each exam is 100 questions worth 100 points with a 90 minute timer. Exams will not be made up for any reason as multiple days exist for students to complete the exams. **Exams will open on the Thursday and close the following Tuesday at 11:59pm. The Tuesday due dates are firm – no makeups for missed exams will be allowed**.

Lab Portfolio:
Lab Kits are required for online lab portion of the course. These are purchased through the NTCC bookstore. Each lab unit has a Lab Workbook (docx file) to download and complete while conducting the experiments at home. All supplies needed are provided in the kits other than common household items. Students will work on lab at their own pace prior to due dates. NOTE: Some labs take multiple days to complete! **The weekly Lab Workbooks (docx file) are always due on Sundays at 11:59pm. These dates are firm – no makeups for missed labs will be allowed.**

Proctored Final Exams:
A comprehensive final exam will be accessed through blackboard. It will be given **online via connect monitored by Proctorio**. Each exam is 200 questions worth 200 points with a 150 minute timer. **The Final Exam will open on Thursday, May 6th and close on Wednesday, May 11th at 11:59pm. The Wednesday due date is firm – no makeups for missed exams will be allowed**.

Required Instructional Materials: Mader: Essentials of Biology, 6th ed with Connect Inclusive Access
Publisher: McGraw Hill **ISBN Number:** Available through NTCC Bookstore

Required Instructional Materials: eScience Introductory Biology Version 2 Lab Kit 1214
Publisher: eScience **ISBN Number:** Available through NTCC Bookstore

Optional Instructional Materials: none

Minimum Technology Requirements:
- Internet capable desktop, laptop, or chromebook (Tablets/ipads/Phones not recommended)
- Microsoft Office for Lab Workbook in Microsoft Word
- Video conferencing capability with webcam and microphone using Zoom
- Access to printer if hard copies of assignments are desired

Required Computer Literacy Skills: Blackboard; Microsoft Office; Zoom
- Web browsing skills for working with the online homework system
- Ability to use Blackboard for access to course information and assignments
- Functional use of Microsoft Office and ability to insert images into word docs
- Ability to use camera and microphone for video and sound in zoom
- Competent and professional emailing skills
    - Emails should have the following format in subject line: Last Name, First Name -Course ID
        - Example: Ward, James - BIOL 1406.001

Student Expectations:
- Adhere to Classroom Etiquette including Zoom Virtual Classroom (see addendum in Blackboard)
- Adhere to Proctored Exam Etiquette (see addendum in Blackboard)
    - Proctored exams are monitored by McGraw Hill through Connect with Proctorio
        - Students will be recorded in the following ways during proctored exams:
            - Video, Audio, Screen, and Environment
        - Testing Violations from all recordings will be reported by Proctorio

Communications: Turnaround time for email responses is 24 hours during workweek.
NTCC email is the official form of communication used by the college.

Institutional/Course Policy: Withdraw Date
The last day to withdraw from the course in **Thursday, April 7th**. Discontinuing with the course without officially dropping the course by this date will result in a grade earned, in most instances an "F". A stoppage in attendance does not equate to dropping the course.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:
In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (http://www.ntcc.edu/) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information. Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:
NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:
It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Eagle ASSIST:
At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often need support that extends beyond the classroom. "Eagle Assist" is the place to start when looking for that type of assistance. Our support system is here to help you succeed in both your academic and personal growth.

Services provided at https://www.ntcc.edu/student-services/eagle-assist

- Mental Health Counseling (visit www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc to activate your account)
- Classroom Accommodations
- NTCC Care Center Food Pantry
- NTCC Care Center Hygiene Closet
- NTCC Care Center Cook Nook
- Financial Literacy
- Child Care Assistance
- Emergency Aid

Send us a message at eagleassist@ntcc.edu

*Dual credit students please email jstewart@ntcc.edu if interested.

BIOL 1409 ONLINE COURSE SCHEDULE

All 4 credit college courses require 9 hours of lecture work per week and 3 hours of lab course work per week. Online courses are no different except all 12 hours are completed on your own instead of having 6 weekly hours of class time. You may always work ahead but never behind. The online weekly schedule will go from Monday to Sunday as follows:

SAMPLE LECTURE WEEK
Monday – Complete Chapter Reading and Notation Assignments
Tuesday – Review Blackboard Video and Content in Chapter Resource Folder
Wednesday – Complete Initial Chapter Discussion Board Post
Thursday – Make Final Preparations Needed to Successfully Complete Upcoming Assignments
Friday – Reply to 2 Posts on Chapter Discussion Boards
Saturday – Chapter Connect Assignments Due

SAMPLE LAB WEEK
Monday – Complete Learning Objectives, Knowledge Checks, and Lab Drill
Tuesday – Review Lab Assignments & Procedures; Download Lab Workbook (docx file)
Tuesday to Sunday – Work on Lab Experiments
Sunday – Lab Workbook (docx file) Due

Tentative Course Timeline:
(*note* instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this timeline at any point in the term):

BIOL 1409	Online Lecture	Online Lab
Week 1: JAN 17-23	**Orientation/Syllabus** Syllabus Agreement Due Jan 22 Syllabus Quiz Due Jan 22	**LAB 0 Getting Started** Lab Safety Contract Due Jan 23
Week 2: JAN 24-30	**CH 14 Darwin and Evolution** CH 14 Connect Due Saturday Jan 29	**LAB 1 Intro to Science & LAB 2 Lab Safety** Lab 1 & 2 Workbooks Due Sunday Jan 30
Week 3: JAN 31-FEB 6	**CH 15 Evolution on a Small Scale** CH 15 Connect Due Saturday Feb 5	
Week 4: FEB 7-13	**CH 16 Evolution on a Large Scale** CH 16 Connect Due Saturday Feb 12	**LAB 3 Taxonomy** Lab 3 Workbook Due Sunday Feb 13
	EXAM 1 over CH 14-16 (available online Thur, Feb 10 – Tue, Feb 15)	
Week 5: FEB 14-20	**CH 17 Viruses, Bacteria, and Protists** CH 17 Connect Due Saturday Feb 19	**LAB 4 Bacteria & LAB 5 Protista** Lab 4 & 5 Workbooks Due Sunday Feb 20
Week 6: FEB 21-27	**CH 18 Plants and Fungi** CH 18 Connect Due Saturday Feb 26	**LAB 6 Fungi &** **LAB 8 & 9 Plant Circulation & Reproduction** Lab 6, 8, & 9 Workbooks Due Sunday Feb 27
Week 7: FEB 28-MAR 6	**CH 19 Animals** CH 19 Connect Due Saturday Mar 5	**LAB 10 Invertebrates & Vertebrates** Lab 10 Workbook Due Sunday Mar 6
	EXAM 2 over CH 17-19 (available online Thur, Mar 3 – Tue, Mar 8)	

Week 8: MAR 7-13	**CH 22 Being Organized** **CH 23 Transport Systems** CH 22 & 23 Connect Due Sat Mar 12	**LAB 11 Animal Structure** Lab 11 Workbook Due Sunday Mar 13

SPRING BREAK: MAR 14-18

Week 9: MAR 21-27	**CH 24 Maintenance Systems** **CH 25 Digestion & Nutrition** CH 24 & 25 Connect Due Sat Mar 26	**LAB 12 Circulatory & Respiratory Systems** Lab 12 Workbook Due Sunday Mar 27
	EXAM 3 over CH 22-25 (available online Thur, Mar 24 – Tue, Mar 29)	
Week 10: MAR 28-APR 3	**CH 27 Control Systems** **CH 28 Sensory Input & Motor Output** CH 27 & 28 Connect Due Sat Apr 2	**LAB 13 Sensory and Nervous Systems** Lab 13 Workbook Due Sunday Apr 3
Week 11: APR 4-10 (Apr 7th Drop Date)	**CH 29 Sexual Reproduction** **CH 26 Defenses Against Disease** CH 29 & 26 Connect Due Sat Apr 9	
	EXAM 4 over CH 26-29 (available online Thur, Apr 7 – Tue, Apr 12)	
Week 12: APR 11-17	**CH 30 Ecology & Populations** CH 30 Connect Due Saturday Apr 16	**LAB 14 Ecology of Organisms** Lab 14 Workbook Due Sunday Apr 17
Week 13: APR 18-24	**CH 31 Communities & Ecosystems** CH 31 Connect Due Saturday Apr 23	**LAB 15 Ecological Interactions** Lab 15 Workbook Due Sunday Apr 24
Week 14: APR 25-MAY 1	**CH 32 Human Impact** CH 32 Connect Due Saturday Apr 30	
	EXAM 5 over CH 30-32 (available online Thur, Apr 28 – Tue, May 3)	
Week 15: MAY 2-8	**Review for Final Exam**	
Week 16: WED, MAY 11	**FINAL EXAM DUE over CH 14-19, 22-32 (available Thur, May 5 – Wed, May 11)**	

NOTE: CH 20 & 21 omitted; CH 26 out of sequence