Biology 101 Syllabus (CRN 20744)

## Instructor Information and Availability

Erin Chamberlain

chambee@linnbenton.edu

Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:20 (also available by appointment)

Office: WOH 220

## Course Information

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00-11:20

Classroom: 217(T) 218(Th)

## Course Materials

Required:

* ***Concepts of Biology***- OpenStax textbook. Available free online at: [Concepts of Biology Textbook](https://openstax.org/details/books/concepts-biology) or for purchase at the bookstore.
* ***BI 101 General Biology Lab Packet***.
* ***Class Moodle Site***
* ***Green Book***

## Course Description

This course is an introductory course to Biology with emphasis on diversity of life and ecology. It is designed for non-science majors or undecided majors. It is an opportunity to begin to explore and learn about the living organisms in this world and how they interact with the living (including humans) and the non- living things that make up our beautiful diverse Earth.

## Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Discuss biological community interactions.

2. Explain how changes in human population and/or actions impact natural ecosystems.

3. Describe the movement of energy & nutrients through trophic levels.

4. Recognize the appropriate taxonomic level of an organism based on key characteristics or traits.

**Classroom Goals**

1. Practice thinking like a scientist: asking questions, using evidence based reasoning

2. Build confidence in ability to learn and do science

3. Connect learning in biology to life outside of the classroom

4. Create a sense of belonging for all students

# Class Policies

### Behavior and Expectations

Students are most successful when they ask questions, actively participate in class, and complete assignments. Biology is a wonderfully interesting subject and I hope you can leave here with the knowledge and critical thinking skills to look at the world around you a bit differently. As an instructor I am here to support you so please contact me by email, after class or see me during student hours with any questions/concerns you may have.

### Academic Integrity

This class is highly collaborative; however, there are expectations for individual work. If it is ever unclear to you, please ask. Any cheating, plagiarism, etc.,may result in a zero and possible recommendation to the administration for further consequences. You are held accountable to the [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.linnbenton.edu/current-students/administration-information/policies/students-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct), which outlines expectations pertaining to academic honesty (including cheating and plagiarism), classroom conduct, and general conduct.

### Statement of Respect

I will make every attempt to create an environment free of distraction and one open to free discourse. The college environment is one of exploring ideas, but also in a context of mutual respect for your peers and instructors. If a pattern of disrespect develops the instructor reserves the right to discuss appropriate behavioral expectations with individuals who may not fully understand this responsibility. At no time will a hostile or exclusive classroom environment or discussion be permitted.

### Use of Cell Phones

Cell phones are required to be silenced and put away during class. They are a distraction to our goal of creating an environment for everyone to learn. Please feel free to talk to me with any concerns or questions.

### Grading

*Homework:* 24 pts

*Office Visit:* 4 pts

*Reflections:* 20 pts

*Article Summary:* 10 pts

*Reading Quizzes:* 90 pts

*Exams:* 200 pts

*Prelabs/Labs:* 80 pts

**Total Points: 428 pts**

### Final Grade Breakdown

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Percentage |
| A | 90-100% |
| B | 80-89% |
| C | 70-79% |
| D | 60-69% |
| F | 0-59% |

### Homework

Homework is to be completed most weeks and is due at the beginning of class- late homework will be accepted for half credit. It will be an opportunity to practice what we have covered the previous week and will be used in class for review and discussion. See the syllabus and Moodle class site for due dates. Each week’s homework is worth 4 points except for the article summary (10 pts). I will drop your lowest homework score excluding the article summary.

### In-Class Expectations/ Group work

This class will be a combination of lecture and active learning. There will be questions and activities in which you will be expected to actively participate. Reflections will be due at the end of each class period (not including lab days). To create an effective learning environment; groups will be formed intentionally using a survey given on the first day. Group expectations will be collaboratively discussed with the smaller and larger group and a group contract will be written and signed to help promote an inclusive classroom community and aid in groups being able to function effectively. “Group work that promotes students’ collaboration to achieve shared learning goals has been shown to improve student achievement, persistence, and attitudes toward science.” (Evidence Based Teaching Guides: LIfe Science Education)

### Reading Quizzes

I will expect you to do the reading before coming to class. This way you will preview the material so we can use class time efficiently and effectively. I have provided reading guides that will help you focus on key terms and concepts. Fill these out as you do the reading, and you may use them on the reading quizzes (15 pts each). Quizzes will include both questions from the reading and previous material. Quizzes begin promptly at the beginning of class, so if you are late you will have less time to complete them. I drop your lowest quiz.

### Exams

All exams are comprehensive. The first two exams will be administered as a 2-stage “pyramid” test. You will have a set period of time to take the exam, turn it in, then retake the exam with a group of students in the class (graded 90% for the "solo" effort and 10% for the "group" effort). Your group score cannot lower your grade. If you know you will be absent on an exam day let me know ahead of time to schedule a make up. Exams include multiple choice and short answer questions and are based on lectures, reading, and labs. Once exams are returned to the class, they cannot be made up. **Early finals can only be taken during finals week.**

### Prelabs/Labs

Labs are a critical component for the learning processes in any science class. They provide hands-on experience requiring students to make critical thinking decisions that may influence the outcome of the lab. This is a lab class and you must attend 60% (6 out of the 9) of the labs to pass this class. Pre-lab assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of each lab. Each lab is worth 10 points and will be graded using the following rubric:

* Pre Lab: 2 pts
* Lab Completion: 4 pts - I will check each section on understanding the objective, completion, detailed drawings. This will be done in class and be completed before class is over.
* Lab Report: 4 pts- These questions will be checking your understanding of the lab. I will be looking for well thought out answers that shows you understand the purpose of the lab. You can only turn this in if you have attended and completed the lab. It will be due the following lab class

### Make-ups

Pre-Labs are due at the beginning of the lab class and cannot be turned in late. Labs cannot be made up due to the restraints of lab material availability. Your lowest lab, quiz and homework will be dropped. If you miss an exam or quiz you need to contact me as soon as possible to schedule a makeup time in the student assessment center in RCH 111. No make-ups will be given after the quiz or exam is handed back.

### Incomplete Grades

Incomplete grade (IN) will only be considered if a student has talked to me in advance, and a signed agreement between the student and myself is completed. IN grade are assigned only if the student has a good reason for making the request, has only the minority of coursework to complete, and has scored a C or better on work that has been submitted.

# College Policies

## Disability and Access Statement

You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

1. You have a documented disability and need accommodations.

2. Your instructor needs to know medical information about you.

3. You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services web page every term in order to receive accommodations. If you believe you may need accommodations but are not yet registered with CFAR, please visit the CFAR website at www.linnbenton.edu/cfar for steps on how to apply for services or call 541-917-4789.

## Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

# Changes to the Syllabus

I reserve the right to change the contents of this syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. You will be given notice of relevant changes in class, through a Moodle Announcement, or through LBCC e-mail.

# Class Schedule:

**Every Week:**

* Pre-labs due at the beginning of class on Lab Day (Thursdays)
* Lab Reports due the following Lab Day (Thursdays)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Reading** | **Tuesday** | **Thursday** |
| 1 | Chapter 1 1.2 | Intro to Life on Earth  Nature of Science | Lab # 1: Climate Change |
| 2 | Chapter 19 19.1-3 | Population Ecology  ***Reading Quiz 1*** | Lab # 2: Population Ecology  ***Homework 1*** |
| 3 | Chapter 5 5.1  Chapter 20 20.1  Chapter 19 9.4 | Community Ecology  ***Reading Quiz 2*** | Lab # 3:  Community Ecology  ***Homework 2*** |
| 4 | Chapter 20 20.2 | Exam Review  Nutrient Cycling  **Reading Quiz 3** | Lab #4: Nutrient Pollution  ***Homework 3*** |
| 5 |  | ***Exam 1***  Intro to Prokaryotes | Lab #5: Bacteria  ***Homework 4*** |
| 6 | Chapter 11 11.1  Chapter 13 13.1,13.3-4 | Bacteria  Fungi/Protists  ***Reading Quiz 4*** | Lab #6: Fungi and Protists  ***Homework 5*** |
| 7 | Chapter 14 | Plants Diversity  ***Reading Quiz 5*** | Lab #7: Plants  ***Homework 6*** |
| 8 | Articles: Choices will be on Moodle | Exam Review  Intro to Invertebrates  ***Reading Quiz 6*** | Lab # 8: Invertebrates  ***Article Summary Due*** |
| 9 | Chapter 15 15.1-15.5 | **Exam 2**  Invertebrates continued | ***Thanksgiving: No Class*** |
| 10 | Chapter 15 15.6  Chapter 21 21.1-3 | Threats to biodiversity/ conservation  Vertebrates  ***Reading Quiz 7*** | Lab #10: Vertebrates  ***Homework 7*** |
| Final |  | Final 7:30-9:30 |  |