BIOLOGY 1 BIOL-1406  
Department of Life Sciences  
Fall 2019

A. COURSE INFORMATION

Course number/section:  BIOL-1406.003  
Class meeting time:  2:00-3:15pm TR  
Class location:  OCNR 145  
Course Website:  https://bb9.tamucc.edu

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:  Stella Doyungan, Ph.D.  
Office location:  Tidal Hall (TH) 232  
Office hours:  Monday and Wednesday at 04:00-05:00pm  
Tuesday and Thursday at 3:30-5:00pm  
Telephone:  361-825-3686  
e-mail:  stella.doyungan@tamucc.edu  
Appointments:  Preferably through email.

C. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog Course Description

4 sem. hrs. (3:2) Presentation of basic biological concepts including scientific method,  
cytology, energetics, nucleic acids and genetics. This course is suitable for all majors.  
Placement:  Students must place into Biology 1406 by achieving a sufficient score on either  
the SAT or ACT or completing a mathematics course. SAT scores required for placement in  
Biol 1406 are 500 on Critical Reading Section and 520 (taken before March 2016) or 550 (if  
taken March 2016 or later) on the Mathematics section. An ACT score of 21 on each of the  
Math, English, and Reading sections can also be used.  
Students with test scores lower than this may take Biol 1406 if they completed a precalculus  
course in high school or have completed MATH 1314 - College Algebra or equivalent.  
Corequisite:  Safety training given in SMTE 0091 - Biological Laboratory Safety Seminar is  
required for continued participation in this course. TCCNS Equivalent:  BIOL 1406  
Semester Credit Hours (SCH) from this course may count toward the 6 SCH in the Life and  
Physical Sciences Foundational Component Area and/or the 6 SCH in the Component Area  
Option of the University Core Curriculum. Offered fall, spring and summer semesters every  
year.
PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

Prerequisites
MATH-1314 and ENGL-1301 or ACT English score of 21 and ACT Math score of 21

Corequisite
SMTE0091

D. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES

Required Textbook

Supplies
Qwizdom Responder
Lab coat

E. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT

Assessment is a process used by instructors to help improve learning. Assessment is essential for effective learning because it provides feedback to both students and instructors. A critical step in this process is making clear the course’s student learning outcomes that describe what students are expected to learn to be successful in the course. The student learning outcomes for this course are listed below. By collecting data and sharing it with students on how well they are accomplishing these learning outcomes students can more efficiently and effectively focus their learning efforts. This information can also help instructors identify challenging areas for students and adjust their teaching approach to facilitate learning.

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

SLO 1. Discuss the basic concepts of chemistry as they relate to living organisms.
SLO 2. Describe how a living cell is constructed, and recognize the relationships among its components.
SLO 3. Explain the physical and chemical bases for the activities of living cells and elucidate how these activities are controlled.
SLO 4. Demonstrate familiarity with the cellular and molecular processes involved in inheritance.
SLO 5. Identify examples of recent advances in applied cellular and molecular biology and evaluate their impacts on society.

G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

Lecture will be the primary form of instruction. However, I will make use of “active learning” strategies such as students filling-up interactive lecture notes and using Qwizdom clickers for class quizzes. Sometimes, homework will be assigned, and students will be quizzed about the homework. Occasionally classroom exercises will require student participation. Videos, animations and illustrations are shown to supplement lecture.
H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Major Course Requirements
Lecture contributes 3/4 of your grade, and laboratory contributes 1/4 of your grade:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laboratory</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Lecture
The lecture grade comprises grades in lecture exams, final exam and quizzes.

1. **Lecture and Final Exams.** The exams cover specific assigned topics. They consist of multiple-choice questions (identification, fill-in the blanks, matching type, true-false and short answer types). There are three lecture exams and a final exam. Each exam is worth 100 points.

2. **Quizzes.** Every lecture meeting, there are some questions for points and Qwizdom responders are used to answer these questions. The students are required to bring their functioning Qwizdom responder every lecture meeting. They must be present to answer the questions and are not permitted to use another student’s responder. **Answering questions for another student absent in lecture is cheating and will not be tolerated.** There is **NO make-up for missed quizzes.** The quizzes are worth 100 points.

Grading in Lecture

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>= 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>= 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>= 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>= 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>= 100 points</td>
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<td><strong>--------</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>500 points</strong></td>
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**I WILL NOT ROUND DECIMALS OF LECTURE GRADES TO THE NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.**

Laboratory
The laboratory grade comprises points in laboratory reports, worksheets, pre-lab quizzes and practical exam.

**I WILL NOT ROUND DECIMALS OF LABORATORY GRADES TO THE NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.**

Final grading: Your final number and letter grade will be based on the grade you earn in the lecture and laboratory. Lecture grade is 75% and laboratory grade is 25%.
Final Grade = lecture grade (0.75) + laboratory grade (0.25)
Example: Final grade = 70 (0.75) + 90 (0.25) = 52.5 + 22.5 = 75 = C

Final letter grade designation
90 -100 = A
80 - 89 = B
70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D
59 and less = F

I WILL ROUND DECIMALS OF FINAL NUMBER GRADE TO THE NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER TO DESIGNATE LETTER GRADE.

I. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>08/27</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>08/29</td>
<td>Introduction (cont’d)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>09/03</td>
<td>Water and Chemical building blocks of life</td>
<td>2 &amp; 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>09/05</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>09/10</td>
<td>Cell Structure</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>09/12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>09/17</td>
<td>Membranes</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>09/19</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>09/24</td>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>09/26</td>
<td>Energy and Metabolism</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10/01</td>
<td>Energy and Metabolism</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>10/03</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10/08</td>
<td>How cells harvest energy</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>10/10</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Photosynthesis</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>10/17</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>Exam II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>10/24</td>
<td>How cells divide</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>10/29</td>
<td>Sexual reproduction and meiosis</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>10/31</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11/05</td>
<td>Patterns of inheritance</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>11/07</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>Exam III</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>11/14</td>
<td>Chromosome basis of inheritance</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>Chromosome basis of inheritance</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>R</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>Molecular basis of inheritance</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R</td>
<td>11/28</td>
<td><em>Thanksgiving Holiday-No class</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>12/03</td>
<td>Gene expression: From gene to protein</td>
<td>15</td>
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Final exam: TBD

Midterm Grading - October 16-30, 2019

Note: Changes in this course schedule may be necessary and will be announced to the class by the Instructor. The assignments and exams shown are directly related to the Student Learning Outcomes described in Section F.

J. COURSE POLICIES

**Attendance/Tardiness**

Students are expected to attend on time in every scheduled class and laboratory meeting. If the student is absent in the lecture, it is the student’s responsibility to obtain missed materials. If a student is absent in the laboratory, the student will be given a zero grade for the laboratory activity performed that day. Make-up is only permitted for an excused absence and emergencies.

Students with University’s approved absence (athletics, military duty, others) must notify the instructor in advance of the scheduled absence. In case of emergencies, students should inform the instructor about the situation as soon as possible.

Proper documentation is required for excused absences. It must be in writing and signed by the person of authority (coach, doctor, funeral director). Personal reasons such as getting married, going on vacation, attending weddings, reunions, household or car repairs and NON-EMERGENCY medical or dental visits are not acceptable.

**Late Work and Make-up Exams**

No late lab worksheets and lab reports are accepted.

**Extra Credit**

NO INDIVIDUAL extra credit projects or assignments will be available in this class. Opportunities to earn bonus points however, are provided for the ENTIRE CLASS.

a) There can be bonus points built as extra questions in the Qwizdom quizzes. These bonus points cannot be made up.

b) 15 bonus points are given to students who attend 90% of class lecture days. This 15-bonus points is ALL OR NONE, which means that if your attendance is less than 90% you will not get the 15 bonus points. Attendance in class is taken by answering the attendance question using the Qwizdom remote control at the end of the lecture. If you leave early and cannot answer this question, you are marked absent.
Cell Phone Use
Students are required to put their cell phones to silent mode during class. Taking pictures and sending text messages during class are not allowed.

Laptop Use
Laptops, Ipads or similar tablet PC usage is limited to class-related activities such as taking notes and looking at the PowerPoint lectures and study guides.

Food
Please eat your meals before or after class. However, I will not take food away from you. In the laboratory, eating and drinking is prohibited.

Missed Exam
Special exam is given to students with excused absence (excused per TAMUCC guidelines) and the format of such exam is ESSAY and SHORT ANSWER TYPES.

Participation
Participation in class is voluntary but encouraged. Extra credit points sometimes will be available for participation.

Returning Exams
Exams will not be given back to students. Students, however, will have the opportunity to look at the exam questions after their score reports are given back. Students are not allowed to take picture or Xerox the exam.

Interrupted Exam
If there is a disruption during the exam that requires evacuation of the building, a make-up exam will be given to students that have not finished the test. No make-up exam will be given to students that have finished the test. The schedule of the make-up exam will be announced, and the format of the exam will be multiple choice. The same rule applies to students taking exam in Exam Services.

K. COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- Academic Integrity (University)
University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.

- Classroom/Professional Behavior
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each
individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

- **Statement of Civility**
  Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high-quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

- **Deadline for Dropping a Course with a Grade of W (University)**
  I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. *Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.* Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Please consult the Academic Calendar ([http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/](http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/)) for the last day to drop a course.

- **Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering)**
  As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage at [http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html](http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the
Office of the Provost.

- **Disability Services**
  The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call (361) 825-5816 or visit Disability Services in Corpus Christi Hall 116.
  If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.
  
  [http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/](http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/)

- **Statement of Academic Continuity**
  In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

L. OTHER INFORMATION

- **Academic Advising**
  The College of Science & Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. Meetings are by appointment only; advisors do not take walk-ins. Please call or stop by the Advising Center to check availability and schedule an appointment. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Center for Instruction 350 or can be reached at (361) 825-3928.

**GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

I reserve the right to modify the information, schedule, assignments, deadlines, and course policies in this syllabus if and when necessary. I will announce such changes in a timely manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.