West Valley College
Biology 10 – General Biology
Spring 2012

Instructor: Christine Peters-Stanton
Section: Bio 10 : 15878
Lecture: T 6:30 – 9:40pm (SM36)
Lab: Must enroll in lab separately

Office : SM 55G
Office Hrs : TTh 7:15 – 7:30am, 4:00 – 5:00pm
Phone : 741-2626 (Please leave a message)
Email : christine.peters@west valley.edu

Tentative Lecture Schedule:

Wk.	Dates	Topics	Reading Assignment
1	Jan. 31	Life / Process of Science Organization of life	 1.3, 20.4
2	Feb. 7	Chemistry of Life Energy / Molecular Movement	2.1, 2.2, 2.3 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 6.2
3	Feb. 14	Cell Structure Cell Structure / Photosynthesis	4.1, 4.3 4.3, 6.2, 7.1,7.2, 7.3, 7.4
4	Feb. 21	Cell Structure / Cell Respiration Organic Molecules	8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5
5*	Feb. 28	**Exam I (Weeks 1 – 4)** Metabolism	 8.5
6	Mar. 6	Cardiovascular Cardiovascular	34.3, 34.4, 34.5 34.3, 34.4, 34.5,
7	Mar. 13	Respiration Cell Division - Mitosis	37.2,37.3 9.1, 9.2
8	Mar. 20	Meiosis Meiosis / DNA Structure	10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5 9.3, 13.2, 13.3
		Spring Break March 26 - 30	
9*	April 3	**Exam II (Weeks 4 – 8)** Transcription / Translation	 14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4
10	April 10	Transcription / Translation Inheritance (Genetics)	14.1, 14.2, 14.3, 14.4 11.1, 11.2, 11.4, 11.5
11	April 17	Inheritance (Genetics) Reproduction (Male)	11.1, 11.2, 11.4, 11.5 43.1, 43.2
12	April 24	Reproduction (Female) Evolution	43.3, 43.4 17.1, 17.2, 17.3
13*	May 1	**Exam III (Weeks 8 – 12)** Evolution	 18.1, 18.2, 18.3
14	May 8	Ecology Ecology	20.4, 48.1, 48.2, 48.3 20.4, 48.1, 48.2, 48.3
15	May 15	Energy Cycles Communities	20.4, 48.1, 48.2, 48.3 47.1, 47.2, 47.3
16*	**FINAL EXAM**	**May 22 – Tues (SM36) 6:30 – 8:30pm** **(weeks 12 – 15 & cumulative sections)**	

Important Dates:

Last day to ADD	: Feb. 10	President's Day	: Feb.17 & 20
Last Day to DROP without a W	: Feb. 17	Cesar Chavez Day	: Mar. 30
Last day to DROP with a W	: April 27	Spring Break	: Mar. 26 - 31

Course Description: Welcome to Biology 10! This will hopefully be an amazing semester for you. Although many of you are taking this course for transfer credit, my hope is that each of you will learn something uniquely valuable to you. In addition I hope to foster an amazement and appreciation for biology, for the world around AND within you! We are have been gifted by nature with such wondrous things as the delicate butterfly, the rugged tortoise and cactus, the swift cheetah, and even the ever changing bacteria and viruses. Through education can we truly appreciate the complexity, fragility, and necessity of all life's organisms. We have inherited a wondrous world of creatures which we must strive to protect and keep healthy, not only for their sake but ours.

Biology 10 - General Biology, is a 4unit course accepted by both UC and Cal. State University Systems. This class is designed to introduce students to the general concepts in biology. The goal is to provide students with a basic knowledge and understanding of biology so that they will be able to have a better appreciation for biology and will be more capable of making educated decisions concerning the environment, health related issues, and general issues dealing with biology.

Biology 10 consists has both a lecture and laboratory component. It is *mandatory* that each student be enrolled in a *laboratory section*. 25% of the final course grade will be determined by the laboratory performance. Successful completion of Biology 10 *requires* successful completion of Bio10 lab.

NOTE: ***Any student receiving a failing grade in lab, regardless of their lecture grade, will fail the entire course***.

Course Webpage: Biology 10 has an official website where students will be able to locate general information concerning the course (*http://instruct.westvalley.edu/svensson/B10Main/index.html*). There will be a link to the *pre-lab home page* where you will download weekly lab homework. In addition there is a lecture web site specific to your class (*http://instruct.westvalley.edu/peters/*) where you will be able to access information specific to your lecture course. You can down load lecture handouts, access grades and view announcements. You should plan on visiting both website weekly.

Please do NOT attempt to use the ANGEL website to view course information or for contacting the instructor. Use the course website sited above and the instructors direct email (christine.peters@westvalley.edu).

Course Handouts: Daily lecture handouts will be available on the course website. It is your responsibility to download and print the lecture handouts BEFORE lecture. The handouts will be in two forms 1. Microsoft word 2. pdf. (but will not have pictures). At the end of each lecture handout is a set practice exam questions. These will not be collected or graded, but will be used on exams.

Attendance Policy: Attendance in lecture is *mandatory* for your success. Attendance will be taken in every lecture and will be used to decide your final grade (lecture points will be subtracted for absences). Attendance cards will be handed out the first day of class. Each student will pick them up at the start of class and initial them to indicate their presence. Following the class session, the attendance cards will be returned to the instructor. In addition, some extra credit will be available in lecture and recorded on the attendance cards. Students who do not attend lecture will miss valuable information which may or may not be presented in the text. In addition, lecture quizzes will be given in class, and will not be able to be made-up. If you miss a lecture, you risk missing a quiz.

NOTE: Any student missing the equivalent of 10% of the course (4 class meeting) can be dropped by the instructor.

NOTE: Missing four or more labs which are not made up will result in a student being dropped from the lecture course!

Academic Rigor : This course is UC and Cal State transferable. The material for which students will be held accountable will be comparable to a "University Level" non-major biology introductory course.

Most of students taking this course have had no prior Biology. Therefore simply learning the language of biology will demand a considerable amount of time. Students should expect to spend at least *5-6 hrs per week studying lectures, answering study questions and reading the text, in addition to preparing for laboratory assignments*.

Taping Lectures : I highly recommend taping lectures. Students should always take complete notes during lecture, but DO NOT USE THE TAPES AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR ATTENDING LECTURE.

HELP: I recommend to any student who is not performing as well as he or she would like to come see me as soon as possible. Do not assume that things will get better without any alternation in your current study practices. In addition to my office hours, every student can receive free tutoring in the tutoring center (library) @ (408) 741-2038.
Visit the Tutoring center website @ http://www.westvalley.edu/wvc/ss/tutorial/index.html

Academic Honesty: Cheating in *any form* is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any student found cheating will receive an automatic ZERO on the quiz, exam or internet assignment and may be recommended for further disciplinary action. Due to several incidents of prior cheating in the classroom the following *exam procedures* will be implemented:

1. Be on time for the exam.
2. Bring all items needed for exam with you (i.e. 2 pencils with erasers, scantron sheet, tissue etc.)
3. All books, backpacks, purses etc. will be placed in the front of the class and picked up after the exam. No items should be under your seat. If you don't want to leave it in the room, leave it in the car or with a friend (outside the classroom).
4. Cell phones must be turned off during the exam and placed in backpacks or purses. If, for any reason, you answer a cell phone call, text or IMs during an exam you must turn in your exam and forfeit your remaining time. Exceptions will only be made if the student has ample reason AND notifies the instructor.
5. You may not leave the exam room for any reason once the exam has started. Use the restroom before the exam. Once you leave the room, I will grade what you have completed up to that point.
6. Once the first person leaves the exam room, no latecomers will be admitted to the exam.
7. Cheating will result in a zero on the exam and possible expulsion from the class.
8. Make-up exams are for emergencies only. You must call before the exam starts to let me know of your situation. See below for procedures.
9. Make-up exams are in all-essay form and must be scheduled within one week of the missed exam.
10. Do not schedule appointments etc. during an exam or any class time.
11. A seating chart may be implemented by the instructor.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Attend ALL Lectures: ALL exam material is derived from the lecture material.
2. Be on TIME: Arriving late & leaving early is disruptive to the instructor as well as fellow students.
3. Turn off cell phones and ipod / MP3 players before you enter the classroom!
4. Take COMPLETE notes: Students will be provided with lecture OUTLINES. It is the students' responsibility to complete the information on the handout from listening to the lectures.
5. ASK questions: If at any time you are confused about the material or an assignment be sure to ask for clarification. You can utilize my office hours or see me after class.
6. Be PREPARED: Read the assigned material prior to attending lecture. This will allow you be familiar with the terminology before you hear the lecture.

7. Complete the STUDY QUESTIONS: These questions are designed to help you assess whether or not you know the material. Answer the questions after you have studied to material in order to gage your understanding. These questions will not be collected but are HIGHLY likely to reappear on EXAMS.

Course Requirements:

Text: 1. Introduction to Biology (Custom) edition; Mader, S.
2. Biology 10 - General Biology Laboratory Manual 6th ed. ; West Valley College

Supplies:
1. 4 Scantron forms (#882) - *Please do not use the brown forms*
2. 15 Quiz Scantron forms (#815-E) – *Please do not use the brown forms*
3. Three-Ring binder for holding lecture handouts

Grading:

Lecture Grade:

1. 3 Lecture Exams: (125pts, 125pts, 125 pts.)	= 375 pts.
2. Lecture Quizzes (lowest will be dropped) 10 pts. (combined for ~15% of lecture)	= 90 pts.
3. Final Exam: 150 pts.	= 150 pts.
5. Attendance	= 15 pts.
Total Lecture Points	**= 630 pts**

Laboratory Grade:

1. Laboratory points comprise 25% of your final course grade.	= 215 pts
Total Course Points	**= 845 pts**

Course Grades : Course grades will be calculated as a percentage of points earned out of a total possible 845 points for the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following *Grading Scale*:

90% - 100%	= A
80% - 89%	= B
65% - 79%	= C
50% - 64%	= D
Below 50%	= F

Class Exams & Assignment Descriptions :

Lecture Exams: Exams will be given during the 1.5 hr lecture period. Exams will be comprised of Scantron type questions (Multiple choice, True/False), matching, fill in the blank, and short answer. The Final Exam will be *comprehensive* and cover all material from the beginning of the course, with an **emphasis** on the **most recent material**. The Final Exam will follow the same format as all previous lecture exams.

Make-up Exams: Make-up exams will be essay exams. Makeup exams may only be given to students if the following criteria are met: 1. The student has contacted the instructor BEFORE the exam has started (call 741-2626 or email christine_peters@westvalley.edu) and has made the instructor aware of the absence and 2. The student has a college authorize absence (doctor's note, documented family emergency etc.). If there is a conflict with the exam schedule, please contact the instructor BEFORE the exam so that an alternate exam can be administered. Make-up exams must be scheduled within ONE WEEK of the missed exam.

Lecture Quizzes: Lecture quizzes will be unannounced and ONLY be given in lecture. Quizzes cannot be made up. It is therefore essential that you attend all lectures. Quizzes will only cover lecture material. Quizzes can be scantron, short answer, or fill in the blanks. They may be given at the

beginning middle or end of lecture, up to the instructor's digression. The quizzes will allow you to determine how well you understand the lecture material before a lecture exam is given. If you are doing poorly on the quizzes be sure to see me for help BEFORE the exam. Quizzes will count for ~15% of your final lecture grade. You will be allowed to drop you lowest quiz score.

Student Learning Outcome: At the completion of this course you should be able to design an experiment using the scientific method, make biologically informed decisions regarding health, wellness, biotechnology, and environmental/ ecological issues. You should also be able to recognize how evolution theorizes to account for the unity and diversity of life.

Assistance: If you have a learning or physical need that will require special accommodations in this class you will need to notify me in writing of your accommodation needs. West Valley College makes reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. College materials will be available in alternate formats (Braille, audio, electronic format, or large print) upon request. Please contact the Disability and Educational Support Program at (408) 741-2010 (voice) or (408) 741-2658 (TTY) for assistance.

Additional Help & Reference: There is a lot of information to be learned in this class and how you utilize your time will greatly influence how well you do. You will set yourself up to succeed if you attend regularly, come to class prepared, ask questions when you don't understand, take good notes... in general, develop good study habits and just a lot of hard work! Each student must find what works best for them, however here are a few helpful suggestions.

1. Skim your reading assignments *prior* to class so that you will have baseline understanding of what is going to be covered. DON"T read and try to commit to memory the information YET.
    a. Read the Titles and Bullets
    b. Skim the chapter reading
    c. Look at the diagrams
    d. Skim the lecture handouts; familiarize yourself with the topic to be covered
2. Attend lecture (with this baseline understanding). Bring your lecture handouts, take good notes using your handouts (or additional paper if you choose).
3. Ask questions when something is unclear
4. Review your lecture notes the same day as the lecture. You may want to use the following review techniques:
    a. Without looking at your notes, write down the overall concept introduced in the lecture.
    b. Without looking at your notes, write down all of the detailed information you can remember from the lecture.
    c. Compare what you remember with the actual lecture notes. Highlight anything that you didn't remember. This is information that is not yet in you short term memory.
    d. Rewrite a complete set of lecture notes.

    Remember the goal is to retain the information in your long term memory. To transition the memories from short term to long term, your best opportunity is to review the information while it is still fresh, the longer you wait the less you will remember and will have to start all over creating new short term memories. *In practice you will actually be saving time*!
5. Any questions, which come up during your studying, can be addressed at the next class meeting
6. A few days after the lecture, revisit your notes and repeat the steps a – c above. If there is significant loss of information, you don't know the material well enough and need to review the lecture again.
7. Read the related information in your textbooks for further clarification.

8. Once you feel you have a good understanding of the material, attempt answering the study questions at the end of the handout. DO NOT look through your notes to find the answers. If you do you are only testing how well you can find answers, remember you will not have the your study notes on the exam.
9. You can also use the questions in the textbook to help gage your understanding.
10. Read the labs prior to attending class.
11. Participate in all lab activities
12. Answer all lab questions with completeness and accuracy
13. If you have done all of this – then the weekend before the exam will be simply review.
14. Make sure you are getting a good night's sleep prior to the exam

Note: Think of learning biology as you would any new skill such as playing an instrument or learning a sport, *practice, practice, practice*. Studies have shown that the magic number for your brain to retain something is **SEVEN. So repeat the information not just once, twice or even three times but 7!**

"Well, here we go again.... Did anyone here *not* eat his or her homework on the way to school?"

Study Hard & Have FUN !