

# Biology 10 Introduction to Biology

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Office Hours: MW 8:00-9:00am

Bio 10 Lecture Section 15874  
MW SM 36 9:20-10:45 am

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## *Introduction*

Welcome to Bio 10! The information in this Greensheet will help you to understand what is expected of you in this class and help you to succeed. You should retain this course outline for reference throughout the course.

This is a Non-majors course. I assume no previous biological expertise. I do, however, assume a will to learn, and a willingness to work.



*“Would you tell me, please which way I ought to go from here?”*

*“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to”*

*Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland*

## *Learning Outcomes*

This course is designed to challenge you. To develop stamina we run a little father each day building up stamina. To develop bulging biceps we lift weights until our muscles burn. Primarily it will challenge you to think. In addition to thinking about the material in the course you will be encouraged to develop new skills and gain a better understanding of *how you learn*, and, hopefully, where you want to get to.

After completing our course in Introduction to Biology you will be approximately three months older, but you will be wiser in the following ways:

1. You will be able to use the scientific method to pose questions and answer problems.
2. You will be better prepared to take lecture notes that are useful
3. You will be able to draw and interpret scientific tables, graphs, and charts
4. You will be better informed about the environment and the role of natural selection
5. You will be better informed about issues of health and nutrition

6. You will be better informed about issues of human impacts on the environment

### ***Course Information***

Introduction to Biology is a 4 unit course that satisfies the natural science requirement for the AA degree. It is also transferable to California State University and the University of California.

### ***Lectures***

Each lecture is 85 minutes long. They provide the core information of the course. While some information presented supports relevant material in Mader, other topics are not from the textbook and will appear in the exam. You should attend all the lectures.



### ***Course Text***

“Biology” tenth edition (2010), Sylvia S. Mader, McGraw-Hill ISBN 978-0-07-352543-3- Available at the WVC bookstore. The chapters that are applicable to each day’s subject are listed in the lecture outline. Accompanying the text is a CD-Rom and a companion website:

<http://www.mhhe.com/maderbiology10>

### ***Bio 10 Webpage***

My Bio 10 webpage contains all the handouts for the course, including, the study guides and lecture outlines.

It also contains links to useful sites both concerned with biology and studying tips.

### ***Study Questions***

Study Questions include required reading from Mader for each lecture, other recommended resources, and study questions. The study questions serve to focus your attention onto the key concepts of each lecture and of each chapter in. Mader Study Guides are available to download from the Bio 10 webpage.

### ***Basic Skills***

One of the goals of this class is to help students improve basic college skills such as taking lecture notes, using reference materials, and preparing for midterms. There are three exercises which are assessed throughout the semester, each is worth 25 points.

1. Lecture notes
2. Completed Study Questions
3. Researching and citing references.

## Assessment

For Bio 10 75% of your grade comes from Lecture and 25% from your Lab. There is no Lab Practical exam for this class.

## Exams

Midterms are non cumulative and consist of: Multiple choice questions (bring a 882E 50 question scantron to midterms, and a #2 pencil), Fill-in-the-blank questions, and written questions.

	<i>Points</i>	<i>Date</i>
Exam 1	100	9/26
Exam 2	100	10/24
Exam 3	100	11/21
Final	150	12/12

### *Grades*

A 90-100%,  
 B 80-89%,  
 C, 65-79%,  
 D 55-64%,  
 F <55%

## Exam Policy

Exam dates are announced well in advance. If you will not be able to attend an exam **you must** inform me as soon as possible. Make up exams will only be offered for full credit where students have a genuine and documented reason for being unavailable. In the absence of documentation make up exams will be graded as late work and have 25% of the grade deducted.



## How to Fail Introduction to Biology 10

1. Do not read over lecture notes to clarify key concepts
2. Do not read course text
3. Ignore study guides
4. Do not attend Lectures
5. Miss exams

## How to succeed in Introduction to Biology 10

Read the above

### **Remember!**

**You award yourself your own grade based upon how much work you put into the class. Your grade is your responsibility.**

***Study Skills***

Lecture notes. Review your lecture notes after the lecture (before the next lecture), when the information is still fresh. In your own words identify the key points to remember, and identify concepts that you are having difficulty with.

***Study groups***

How you organize when to meet, how often to meet and what to meet about is up to you. Reviewing study questions, chapters in Mader and lecture notes as a group will help you understand concepts and reinforce your learning. Meeting group deadlines, “ read Chapter 4 by Wednesday for study group session”, will help focus your time management. Discuss learning techniques that you find help you- they might help other people too!

***Active v Passive Reading!***

Make notes in your own words as you read. What is the key point of this example? Think while you read!

If you read just because you are required to read pages 10-30, you are wasting your time.

If you highlight slabs of the author’s words- you are wasting your time.

You need to translate the text into your own words because when it comes to the exams you will be relying on your brain, not the authors!

***Build your own Glossary***

You will be confronted with many new biological terms. In order to remember them come up with your own definition rather than relying on the authors glossary. Keep adding new words to your own glossary sheet, or note book, or create flashcards with your own definitions.

***Tutorial Center***

<http://www.westvalley.edu/ss/tutorial/oldindex.html>

The Tutorial center offers a variety of services, including drop-in sessions, group sessions and one-on-one tutoring. These services are included in your registration fees- you have already paid for them – so its up to you to take advantage of them

***Student Conduct***

I encourage classroom discussion. Don’t be afraid to contribute to these discussions- you will find that participating is more fun than passively marshmallowing in your seat. However, try to keep your questions relevant to the subject in order not to take up valuable class time.

Arrive on time, or early. Tardiness disrupts other students, who were conscientious enough to arrive on time themselves.

***Important Dates:***

Last day to drop a class (without “W”) February 17  
Last day to drop a class (with “W”) April 27

***Special Accommodations***

If you require special accommodations (such as extra time on exams, or access to the classroom), which may affect your attendance or performance in class please communicate these to me as soon as possible. You will also need to make an appointment with DESP on campus (<http://www.westvalley.edu/desp/>)

I will only be able to make the appropriate adjustments and allowances **after** I am informed.

***Support Services at WVC***

The college has a wide range of support services available for students that need assistance. These services need your support in order to be available for

students in the future. <http://www.westvalley.edu/services.html>

EOPS <http://www.westvalley.edu/eops/>

CARE – single-parents <http://www.westvalley.edu/eops/care.html>

Adult Reentry Program Educational Transition (ET) <http://www.westvalley.edu/et/>