



WACO, TEXAS

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**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**AND**

**INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

**Biology Non-Science Majors**

**Biology 1408-O281**

**Thomas Justice**

**NOTE: This is an Online 8-week course.**

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**Course Description:**

Provides a survey of biological principles with an emphasis on humans, including chemistry of life, cells, structure, function, and reproduction.

**Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:**

None

**Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:**

Notes and presentation materials are available on the course BrightSpace page

**Instructor Information:**

Instructor Name: Thomas Justice

MCC Email: tjustice@mclennan.edu

Office Phone Number: 254-299-8175

Office Location: SB 123

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: via email or appointment also MW 7:25-7:55 and 10:30-11:00 but you must call and make an appointment for those times as this is an on line class.

Other Instruction Information:

**Required Text & Materials:**

None, all required materials are posted on the course BrightSpace page. A link for a free OpenStax book is provided but the book is not required.

**MCC Bookstore Website:** <http://www.mclennan.edu/bookstore/>

**Methods of Teaching and Learning:**

PowerPoint lecture presentations with topic notes are available for each chapter on the course Brightspace page. Labs that use investigative techniques to analyze data and formal written lab reports are also required. Quizzes for each chapter are used to assess learning and graded based upon completion within the prescribed time.

**Course Objectives and/or Competencies:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Distinguish between prokaryotic, eukaryotic, plant and animal cells, and identify major cell structures.
2. Identify stages of the cell cycle, mitosis (plant and animal), and meiosis.

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3. Interpret results from cell physiology experiments involving movement across membranes, enzymes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration.
4. Apply genetic principles to predict the outcome of genetic crosses and statistically analyze
5. Describe karyotyping, pedigrees, and biotechnology and provide an example of the uses of each.
6. Identify parts of a DNA molecule, and describe replication, transcription, and translation.
7. Analyze evidence for evolution and natural selection.
8. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions, and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
9. Use critical thinking and scientific problem solving to make informed decisions in the laboratory.
10. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.
11. Distinguish between prokaryotic, eukaryotic, plant and animal cells, and identify major cell structures.
12. Identify stages of the cell cycle, mitosis (plant and animal), and meiosis.
13. Interpret results from cell physiology experiments involving movement across membranes, enzymes, photosynthesis, and cellular respiration.
14. Apply genetic principles to predict the outcome of genetic crosses and statistically analyze results.
15. Identify the importance of karyotypes, pedigrees, and biotechnology.
16. Identify parts of a DNA molecule, and describe replication, transcription, and translation.
17. Analyze evidence for evolution and natural selection.

**Course Attendance/Participation Guidelines:**

If a student is not in attendance in accordance with the policies/guidelines of the class as outlined in the course syllabus as of the course census date, faculty are required to drop students from their class roster prior to certifying the respective class roster. A student's financial aid will be re-evaluated accordingly and the student will only receive funding for those courses attended as of the course census date.

Before the 60% point of the semester, a student who is absent for 25% or more of a face-to-face or blended course or who misses 25% or more of assigned work for an online course will be withdrawn from the course with a grade of W. A student may also request to be withdrawn with a grade of W before the 60% point of the semester. After the 60% point of the semester, the student may request to be withdrawn if the student is passing, or be assigned the final grade earned at the end of the semester after grades have been updated to reflect missing work. In this course missing eight graded assignments will constitute 25% of assigned work.

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**Course Outline or Schedule:**

A detailed printable version of this calendar which includes testing dates and due dates of all assignments is available on the course Brightspace page. A detailed list of chapter objectives is also available on the course Brightspace page. Any changes to this schedule will be announced via email and a new calendar will be posted to Brightspace.

March 11-March 19 Topics 1-3 commonality of life, chemistry of water, organic compounds  
Test one due March 19

March 19-March 28 Topics 4-6 cell membranes, cell types and organelles, energy and enzymes  
Test two due March 28

March 28-April 6 Topics 7-10 photosynthesis, respiration, mitosis, meiosis  
Test three due April 6

April 6-April 16 Topics 11-12 DNA, protein synthesis  
Test four due April 16

April 16-May 1 Topics 13-14 heredity and evolution  
Test five (final) due May 1

**Course Grading Information:**

Five tests make up 45% of the course grade.

Lab assignments make up 40% of the course grade. Topic quizzes make up 15% of the course  
Grading 100-90=A 89-80=B 79-70=C 69-60=D <60=F

Any student that is caught cheating on an assignment will receive a grade of zero in that assignment. A second offense will result in being reported to MCC for disciplinary action.

**Late Work and Make Up Work Policies:**

1- Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be word processed. I do not accept PDF files.

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2- All assignments are due by the deadline posted in the course calendar. All assignments are to be turned in as attachments using the proper email protocol discussed in the orientation section of the course web site. School approved exceptions to the deadline are posted below.

3- To be excused from the deadline, you **MUST** meet the school criteria for making up missed work- Students will be permitted to make up class work and assignments missed due to absences caused by (1) authorized participation in official College functions, (2) personal illness, (3) an illness or a death in the immediate family, or (4) the observance of a religious holy day. Also, the instructor has the prerogative of determining whether a student may make up work missed due to absences for other reasons. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor of the reason for an absence and to do so in a timely fashion. I **MAY** require written proof of such excused absences

**Student Behavioral Expectations or Conduct Policy:**

“Students are expected to maintain classroom decorum that includes respect for other students and the instructor, prompt and regular attendance, and an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the education opportunity.”

**[Click Here for the MCC Attendance/Absences Policy](https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html)**

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/highlander-guide/policies.html>)

Click on the link above for the college policies on attendance and absences.

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Go to [www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity](http://www.mclennan.edu/academic-integrity) for information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The course policy will be as follows- one incident of cheating will result in a zero for that assignment and being reported to the division director. A second incident will result in the student facing the protocols outlined in the information contained in the link above and failure in the course.

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**INSTRUCTOR'S SCHEDULE**

**SEMESTER/YEAR:** Spring 2024

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tom Justice

**OFFICE ROOM NO:** 123

**OFFICE EXT:**299-8175

**CONFERENCE TIME FOR STUDENTS**

**Monday: 7:25-7:55 10:30-11:00**

**Thursday:**

**Tuesday:**

**Friday:**

**Wednesday: 7:25-7:55 10:30-11:00**

time	COURSE	RM	M	T	W	TH	F
From: 7:25 To: 7:55	Biol 1408-001	123	x		x		
From: 10:30 To: 11:00	Biol 1408-001	123	x		x		

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10/09/2023



## **ACADEMIC RESOURCES/POLICIES**

### **Accommodations/ADA Statement:**

Any student who is a qualified individual with a disability may request reasonable accommodations to assist with providing equal access to educational opportunities. Students should contact the Accommodations Coordinator as soon as possible to provide documentation and make necessary arrangements. Once that process is completed, appropriate verification will be provided to the student and instructor. Please note that instructors are not required to provide classroom accommodations to students until appropriate verification has been provided by the Accommodations Coordinator. For additional information, please visit [www.mclennan.edu/disability](http://www.mclennan.edu/disability)

Students with questions or who require assistance with disabilities involving physical, classroom, or testing accommodations should contact:

[disabilities@mclennan.edu](mailto:disabilities@mclennan.edu) (254)299-8122  
Room 319, Student Services Center

### **Title IX:**

We care about your safety, and value an environment where students and instructors can successfully teach and learn together. If you or someone you know experiences unwelcomed behavior, we are here to help. Individuals who would like to report an incident of sexual misconduct are encouraged to immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator at [titleix@mclennan.edu](mailto:titleix@mclennan.edu) or by calling, Dr. Claudette Jackson, (Accommodations/Title IX) at (254) 299-8465. MCC employees are mandatory reporters and must report incidents immediately to the Title IX Coordinator. Individuals may also contact the MCC Police Department at (254) 299-8911 or the MCC Student Counseling Center at (254) 299-8210. The MCC Student Counseling Center is a confidential resource for students. Any student may report sexual harassment anonymously by visiting <http://www.lighthouse-services.com/mclennan/>

Additionally, Title IX provides rights and protections for pregnant and newly parenting students. Go to McLennan's Title IX webpage at [www.mclennan.edu/titleix/](http://www.mclennan.edu/titleix/). It contains more information about definitions, reporting, confidentiality, resources, and what to do if you or someone you know is a victim of sexual misconduct, gender-based violence or the crimes of rape, acquaintance rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence, or domestic violence.

**Student Support/Resources:**

MCC provides a variety of services to support student success in the classroom and in your academic pursuits to include counseling, tutors, technology help desk, advising, financial aid, etc. A listing of these and the many other services available to our students is available at <http://www.mclennan.edu/campus-resource-guide/>

Academic Support and Tutoring is here to help students with all their course-related needs. Specializing in one-on-one tutoring, developing study skills, and effectively writing essays. Academic Support and Tutoring can be found in the Library and main floor of the Learning Commons. This service is available to students in person or through Zoom. You can contact the Academic Support and Tutoring team via Zoom or email ([ast@mclennan.edu](mailto:ast@mclennan.edu)) by going to our website (<https://www.mclennan.edu/academic-support-and-tutoring/>)

College personnel recognize that food, housing, and transportation are essential for student success. If you are having trouble securing these resources or want to explore strategies for balancing life and school, we encourage you to contact either MCC CREW – Campus Resources Education Web by calling (254) 299-8561 or by emailing [crew@mclennan.edu](mailto:crew@mclennan.edu) or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing [success@mclennan.edu](mailto:success@mclennan.edu).

Paulanne's Pantry (MCC's food pantry) provides free food by appointment to students, faculty and staff. To schedule an appointment, go to <https://calendly.com/paulannespantry-mcc/15min>.

The CREW, Success Coaches, and Paulanne's Pantry are all located on the second floor of the Student Services building in Success Coaching Services.

**MCC Foundation Emergency Grant Fund:**

Unanticipated expenses, such as car repairs, medical bills, housing, or job loss can affect us all. Should an unexpected expense arise, the MCC Foundation has an

emergency grant fund that may be able to assist you. Please go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships-and-resources/emergencygrant.html> to find out more about the emergency grant. The application can be found at [https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency\\_Grant\\_Application.pdf](https://www.mclennan.edu/foundation/docs/Emergency_Grant_Application.pdf)

**MCC Academic Integrity Statement:**

Please view our [Academic integrity statement](#) for more information about academic integrity, dishonesty, and cheating. The unauthorized use of artificial intelligence (AI) for classwork can be a violation of the College's General Conduct Policy. Whether AI is authorized in a course and the parameters in which AI can be used in a course will be outlined by each instructor.

**Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace:**

Go to <https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty-and-Staff-Commons/requirements.html> for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

**Minimum Technical Skills:**

Students should have basic computer skills, knowledge of word processing software, and a basic understanding of how to use search engines and common web browsers.

**Backup Plan for Technology:**

In the event MCC's technology systems are down, you will be notified via your MCC student email address. Please note that all assignments and activities will be due on the date specified in the Instructor Plan, unless otherwise noted by the instructor.

**Email Policy:**

McLennan Community College would like to remind you of the policy (<http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-XXXI-B.pdf>) regarding college email. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to use their McLennan email addresses when conducting college business.

A student's McLennan email address is the preferred email address that college employees should use for official college information or business. Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college emails. For more information about your student email account, go to [www.mclennan.edu/studentemail](http://www.mclennan.edu/studentemail).

**Instructional Uses of Email:**

Faculty members can determine classroom use of email or electronic communications. Faculty should expect and encourage students to check the college email on a regular basis. Faculty should inform students in the course syllabus if another communication method is to be used and of any special or unusual expectations for electronic communications.

If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with their students, it should be reflected in the course syllabus and information should be provided for the preferred form of communication.

**Email on Mobile Devices:**

The College recommends that you set up your mobile device to receive McLennan emails. If you need assistance with set-up, you may email [Helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:Helpdesk@mclennan.edu) for help.

You can find help on the McLennan website about connecting your McLennan email account to your mobile device:

- [Email Setup for iPhones and iPads](#)
- [Email Setup for Androids](#)

**Forwarding Emails:**

You may forward emails that come to your McLennan address to alternate email addresses; however, the College will not be held responsible for emails forwarded to an alternate address that may be lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

For more helpful information about technology at MCC, go to [MCC's Tech Support](#) or email [helpdesk@mclennan.edu](mailto:helpdesk@mclennan.edu).

**Disclaimer:**

The resources and policies listed above are merely for informational purposes and are subject to change without notice or obligation. The College reserves the right to change policies and other requirements in compliance with State and Federal laws. The provisions of this document do not constitute a contract.