



WACO, TEXAS

**COURSE SYLLABUS
AND
INSTRUCTOR PLAN**

BIOLOGY FOR NON-SCIENCE MAJORS II

BIOL 1409_B075

Donna Ewing

NOTE: This is a 16-week course.

NOTE: This is a HYBRID course.

(Attendance is both in class and online)

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION

Spring 2024

This Instructor Plan is tentative, and changes may be made at the instructor's discretion.

BIOLOGY FOR NON-SCIENCE MAJORS II

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Course Description:

This course will provide and reinforce a survey of biological principles with an emphasis on humans, including evolution, ecology, plant and animal diversity, and physiology. Semester hours 4 (3 lec/3 lab)

Prerequisites and/or Corequisites:

None.

Instructor Information:

Instructor Name: Donna Ewing

MCC E-mail: dewing@mclennan.edu

Office Location: Science Building – Room 253

Office/Teacher Conference Hours: Zoom videoconference by appointment.

Other Instruction Information: The best way to reach me is through the e-mail address listed above. I may not be able to respond immediately, but I will try to respond within 24 hours.

Please include the following information in your message:

I will be at the ESEC before and after class.

- **Your name and the course name and number in the subject line.** For this class, the course name and number is BIOL 1409_H1.
- **Your purpose for writing.** Please state the purpose of the message in the subject line.

You need to use your MCC e-mail account when contacting me. Please do not attach files or e-mail assignments without prior authorization. Also, please do not put me on your e-mail lists for inspirational, funny, or chain e-mails. E-mails should be confined to class-related issues.

Required Text & Materials:

**YOUR TEXTBOOK- CONNECT ACCESS IS ALREADY PAID FOR IN SIGNING UP
FOR THIS CLASS!**

**PLEASE DO NOT OPT OUT- THE BOOK AND CONNECT ACCESS IS REQUIRED
AND THIS IS THE LOWEST PRICE.**

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

Student must have consistent access to computer/laptop/tablet with reliable internet access.

There are places on campus that have internet access in the parking lots and Target and library parking lots are said to have good internet access.

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 contacted/notified through 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.

CONNECT- You can download the smartbook assignments while on wifi- do them off-line and they will upload when back on wifi!

*** Click Here for the Minimum System Requirements to Utilize MCC's D2L|Brightspace**

(<https://www.mclennan.edu/center-for-teaching-and-learning/Faculty%20and%20Staff%20Commons/requirements.html>)

Click on the link above for information on the minimum system requirements needed to reliably access your courses in MCC's D2L|Brightspace learning management system.

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.

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.

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If a faculty member prefers not to communicate by email with her/his 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.

Forwarding Emails:

You may forward the 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 become lost or placed in junk or spam filters.

Course Notes and Instructor Recommendations:

Class attendance is necessary in order to be successful in this class. Please schedule adequate time weekly to work on this course and study. For best results, notes should be taken in class and recording is fine for personal use. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible with any questions, problems, or issues. We will work a plan. **Tardiness will count as 1/2 of a absence.**

Late work is not accepted except in extreme circumstances. Homework may be done until the day of the test. Afterwards there is no make up for homework.

Exams will be in class or online.

Grades must be questioned within 1 week of the assignment. After that the grade will stand.

All final grades must be questioned within 24 hours- no exceptions.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

Methods of teaching and learning include learning assignments, online videos and presentations, online laboratory exercises, written papers, weekly mini-tests, weekly online assignments, exams, and research assignments.

From High School to College

Remember that college is much, much different than high school. There are no exam re-takes or extensive extra credit, and late submission of multiple assignments at the end of the semester is not allowed. Those of you who have been in college more than one semester already know this fact very well. Southern Methodist University (SMU) has a website that provides a nice summary of the differences between the two educational levels. Here is the web address:

<http://www.smu.edu/Provost/ALEC/NeatStuffforNewStudents/HowIsCollegeDifferentfromHighSchool>

I strongly encourage all of you, especially those of you who are new to college, to look at this website. It will give you an idea of what is expected of you as a college student and will (hopefully) help decrease the culture shock.

When all is said and done, I **do not GIVE** you a grade for this course, you **EARN** the grade you receive. Earning the grade involves not only working hard and completing assignments by their due dates; it involves understanding and mastering the material. Learning is an ACTIVE process that is more than simple memorization; learning requires gaining an understanding of the information and concepts involved. Learning the material takes more time and effort than just logging into Brightspace and passively looking at the materials you find there. Like most of life's endeavors, you will get out of this class what you put into it. I have provided some strategies to help you learn the material, but if you have questions about other study methods, please do not hesitate to ask.

Methods of Teaching and Learning:

This section is an online format. Learning will be achieved through the required readings, videos, review of posted lectures, lab exercises, learning journals, an analysis paper and associated group discussion, and lecture exams. Material is presented via Brightspace.

Course Objectives and/or Competencies:

Courses in this category focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method. Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural

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phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

- **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
 - Assessed through the use of laboratory exercises, case studies, writing assignments, and/or lecture examinations.
- **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
 - Assessed through the use of written assignments, laboratory exercises, case studies, class discussions, and/or poster or PowerPoint presentations. Lab results or student projects by individuals or small groups will be presented with oral, written, and visual elements.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.
 - Assessed through the use of lecture examinations, laboratory exercises, and/or case studies.
- **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.
 - Assessed through the use of group laboratory exercises, group assessment of case studies, class discussions, and/or poster or PowerPoint presentations. Small groups of students will work together to complete lab experiments, case study assessments, or group projects and present their results using oral, written, and visual elements.

Upon successful completion of lecture and lab portions of this course, students will:

1. Describe modern evolutionary synthesis, natural selection, population genetics, micro and macroevolution, and speciation.
2. Describe phylogenetic relationships and classification schemes.
3. Identify the major phyla of life with an emphasis on plants and animals, including the basis for classification, structural and physiological adaptations, evolutionary history, and ecological significance.
4. Describe basic animal physiology and homeostasis as maintained by organ systems.
5. Compare different sexual and asexual life cycles noting their adaptive advantages.
6. Illustrate the relationship between major geologic change, extinctions, and evolutionary trends.
7. Apply scientific reasoning to investigate questions and utilize scientific tools such as microscopes and laboratory equipment to collect and analyze data.
8. Use critical thinking and scientific problem-solving to make informed decisions in the

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laboratory.

9. Communicate effectively the results of scientific investigations.

Course Outline or Schedule:

Week 1 – Intro

Week 2- Diversity of Animals

Week 3- Ecology

Week 4 -Populations/Ecosystems

Week 5 – Test 1

Week 6- Animal Tissues

Week 7- Skeletal System

Week 8 Muscle System

Spring Break! 03/04/2024 – 03/8/2024

Week 9- Test 2- Immune Response

Week 10 Nervous system-

Friday, 03/21/2024. Last day for student-initiated withdrawals with an automatic grade of ‘W.’

Week 11 Hormones

Week 12 – Test 3 Circulation

Week 13- Respiration

Week 14 Digestion, Nutrition

Week 15 Test 4

Final Exam to be scheduled.

Exams- 400 pts

Final Exam- 200 pts

Papers – 200 pts

Connect- 200 pts

900 + A

800-899. B

700-799. C

600-699. D

599 or below. F

This schedule is tentative and may be changed at the instructor’s discretion. You will be notified of any changes by e-mail and notifications in Brightspace.

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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.

Student Behavior

Students are expected to treat instructor and other students with respect. No foul language, teasing, bullying, or inappropriate comments will be tolerated. When instructor or another student is talking, students are expected to be quiet and pay attention. Phones should be put away unless used in class for Kahoot quiz time. Notes are best taken by hand so laptops need to be put away. Being on time is respectful for the entire class. Avoid leaving early unless approved by the instructor.

Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty is very important. You should always do your own work. The tests are opportunities to demonstrate how much you have learned. Cheating is dishonest; it is also disrespectful of your classmates, your instructor, and most of all, yourself.

[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. Your instructor may have additional guidelines specific to this course.

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

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

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 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/. 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) 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 or a Success Coach by calling (254) 299-8226 or emailing 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

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.

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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.

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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.

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.