

Human Biology: An Issues Approach
BSC 107
<http://www.usm.edu/biologylabs>
Spring Syllabus 2006

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Office Hours: By appointment

Text: *Biology Today: An Issues Approach*, Minkoff & Baker, 3rd edition

BSC 107 is offered as a second core laboratory science course for non-science majors. As a BSC 107 student, you should have completed BSC 103 and 103L or a comparable general biology course. Due to the integral nature of BSC 107 and its associate lab, 107L, they must be taken concurrently. This course will address basic biological concepts in a manner that stresses relevance to the human population by focusing on current issues and should be one of the most interesting, exciting, and thought-provoking courses you take. You will find each topic to be imminently relevant and compelling.

Attendance and Grading: Much of your class work and lab activities will be done in small groups. Therefore, your presence and participation will be essential for the success of both the class and the lab. Your grade will be determined by your attendance, contribution to class discussions, successful completion of individual and group assignments, and performance on discussion-type tests.

Plan to spend extra time in preparation for class and to be prompt. Some assignments will require you to read and answer questions before you come; others will require you to complete work after class. Current event and Internet assignments will be offered throughout the semester and will count as class work, homework and/or extra credit. The point values for these assignments will be announced.

Exams: There will be four comprehensive examinations given throughout the semester, with each worth 100 points. Material for each exam will be taken from both lecture and the text. Please make every effort to be on time (preferably early), as it may take you the entire class time to take the exams. In the event that you arrive late, I will only allow you to take the exam provided no other student has already finished, turned it in, and left. Cell phones are not allowed on the desk during an exam or quiz.

Quizzes: There will be announced and unannounced quizzes given throughout the semester, so plan to keep up with your chapter readings and lecture notes.

Final grade: The four exams, research assignment, quizzes and class work/homework will be averaged. Your overall grade will be based on the following scale:

A: 90 – 100%

B: 80 – 89%

C: 70 – 79%

D: 60 – 69%

F: 0 – 59%

Make-up policy: No make-ups will be allowed on quizzes. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped prior to averaging; therefore, if you miss a quiz, the zero will be dropped from your average. However, if a second quiz is missed, it will be recorded as a zero. Make-up of exams will require an official excuse (which may be obtained from the Assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs in Union room 219), and will be taken during the time set for the final exam. Exams not made up will be recorded as a zero.

Withdraws: Withdraws should be done using SOAR before **3 March 2006**. A grade of *WP* will be given after that date **ONLY** to a student who is passing at that time (see student handbook).

Plagiarism/Cheating: You are being educated to be credible in your field of study. If you plagiarize/cheat, you lose the credibility that is so precious to any field. You are also guaranteed an F in this course, and possible expulsion from the university (see student handbook re plagiarism).

Accommodations: If a student has a disability that qualifies under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Office for Disability Accommodations (ODA) for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact ODA if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies.

Address: The University of Southern Mississippi
Office for Disability Accommodations
118 College Drive # 8586
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001

Voice Telephone: (601) 266-5024 or (228) 214-3232 **Fax:** (601) 266-6035

Individuals with hearing impairments can contact ODA using the *Mississippi Relay Service* at 1-800-582-2233 (TTY) or email Suzy Hebert at Suzanne.Hebert@usm.edu.

The use of cell phones is not allowed during lecture. A penalty will be imposed if you decide to use one during class. Although I strongly encourage active participation in class, talking to friends will not be tolerated!

Week of	Topic	Chapter
16 January	Introduction	
	Hypothesis Testing	1
23 January	Hypothesis Testing cont.	1
30 January	Hypothesis Testing cont.	1
	Exam I	
06 February	Genes, Chromosomes, and DNA	2
13 February	Genes, Chromosomes, and DNA cont.	2
20 February	Human Genetics	3
27 February	Mardi Gras Holiday: no class	
	Genetic Engineering and Genomics	4
06 March	Exam II	
	Explanation of Research Assignment	
13 March	Library Day	
	Evolution	5
20 March	Evolution cont.	5
	Library Day	
23 March**	Research Assignment due by 5 p.m.	
27 March	Research Assignment PowerPoint Presentations	
03 April	Classification	6
	Human Variation	7
10 April	Spring Break: no class	
17 April	Sociobiology	8
	The Population Explosion	9
	Exam III	
24 April	The Nervous System and Senses	13
	Mind and Body	15
01 May	Mind and Body cont.	15
	Drugs and Addiction	14
10 May	Exam IV (2:00 – 4:30 p.m.)	