CR COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS   Syllabus for Symbiosis (BIOL-11)

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2024

Course ID & Section #: BIOL-11-E6444

Instructor's name: Maria Morrow

Lectures: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:40am-1:05pm, SC210

Course units: 4.0

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: SC216-D (in the U of faculty offices, back left corner)

Office hours: by appointment, but usually available Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-11:30am

Phone number: (707) 476-4472

Email address: maria-morrow@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

An exploration of life on Earth through the lens of symbiosis. From the endosymbiotic theory of eukaryotic cells to the function of the "wood wide web", symbioses exist at every level in the organization of life. This course explores evolution, ecology, organismal biology, and cellular biology through the symbiotic relationships that shape our biosphere.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Identify and describe the three major types of symbiotic relationships.

2. Use scientific concepts to explain how symbiotic relationships can act as strong drivers of natural selection.

3. Evaluate biological concepts of individuality with regard to symbiotic interactions.

Required Materials

For this course, we'll be reading Entangled Life by Merlin Sheldrake

Links to an external site.. You can use a physical copy of the book or get the audiobook. We'll start reading it in Week 5, so you have some time to get yourself a copy (but don't procrastinate too long). All other readings or media will be provided for you.

In addition to the CR Bookstore you can find Entangled Life at the following locations:

- CR Library (2 ebooks available)

- Libby (a free audiobook app with any library membership)

Check the local bookstores: For Arcata, try TinCan Mailman or Northtown Books. For Eureka, try Booklegger or Eureka Books. We will also have several papers to read and videos to watch, which will be available free online.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

- In the beginning of the semester, we'll decide on some objectives for ourselves that we'd like to work on throughout the semester. We will have a midterm check in and a final interview to discuss how we are progressing toward these objectives, as well as the course learning outcomes.

- For every class where we have an outside reading, listening, or watching assignment, we will come to the next class with **prepared discussion questions** to demonstrate that we have engaged with the material.

- Periodically, we will have short written questions to complete in class to check for understanding. We will know that these are coming (aka no pop quizzes).

- If and when we have larger exams, we have the opportunity to use notes and to retest.

- Presentations involving research done outside of class may be used as a way to assess your content knowledge, as well as a way to teach each other new information that is relevant to our current interests.

- For grading, this class will use an equal percentage across the board (points just add up to 100% over time). We will include an interview and narrative-based portion in this system for determining final grades.

Assignments must be submitted on time for credit. Any plagiarism or identified use of AI to complete projects can result in a 0 for the assignment and a report to the Chief Student Services Officer. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

College of the Redwoods has a standardized grading system for converting percentage points to GPA:
>92% A, 90-92% A-, 87-89% B+, 83-86% B, 80-82% B-, 77-79% C+, 70-76% C, 60-69% D, <60% F

Notes About Our Class

Norms:

- **Challenge the idea, not the person.** Sometimes people say things that are offensive or we think display ignorance on their part. Instead of challenging that person, e.g. 'you are being racist', challenge the idea, e.g. 'using the term _____ is a racial slur and is offensive. Check out this resource about the history of that term'.

- **Inclusive language** in the classroom and other spaces of interaction. Respect people's identity/pronouns/ideas.

- **Dialog** as a way to process concepts. Dialog involves multiple individuals, so we must all be brave and participate.

- **Disagreements** are a way that we learn. We should stay open to discussion and should feel comfortable expressing disagreement. Let's talk it out! No one needs to be right – we can agree to disagree.

- **All questions** are invited.

- **Tangents are acceptable**. If someone would like to get us back on track, they can say so and we will all respect that. We can continue the topic in office hours or on the Discord channel.

- Take the time to **define terms**. If you do not know a term someone uses, ask for clarification. If you are using terms that might be unfamiliar to others, try to be aware of this and define as you go.

What you'll do each week:

- **At the beginning of class on Tuesdays**, we'll discuss what we are excited to learn more about.

- **At the end of class on Thursdays**, we'll check-in about how the class is going, questions folks might have, etc…

- **At home**, we will engage with the material and develop discussion questions. We will bring several discussion questions to each class to both demonstrate that we have engaged with the material and to inspire dialog.

  - We will have a Discord server where we can discuss ideas outside of class, share resources, and otherwise interact.

- **During class**, we will discuss the material through open dialog.

  - We can keep this conversational. If folks raise a hand, this signals that they would like to speak next – we will all help hold our conversation accountable to this.

  - We will not speak over one another and we will listen actively while others are talking. Taking brief notes may help you remember points you'd like to address without having to stop listening.

- We will participate in discussions, either actively affirming points we agree on and providing feedback on points where we disagree.

- We will use interactive media like Kahoot! and Garctic Phone to see if we are understanding the material.

If you need information about what you missed in class on a particular day or what we are doing for a future class, you'll need to find it on Canvas or ask a classmate. If you need to contact me (Maria) about something that is relatively simple, you can email me at maria-morrow@redwoods.edu. **If you need to talk to me about something more serious** that might require a longer answer or some discussion, you'll need to make an effort to speak to me in person. You can request a time to meet via email or talk to me before or after class. This will ensure that we can have additional information, options, and support during a more difficult or serious conversation.

Important Dates: You can find our weekly schedule on Canvas.

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. Our class is a learning community – this includes the classroom, field locations, online environment, and anywhere else we might be interacting. We will use inclusive language, respect identities, show respect to our community members, and assume best intentions where we can.

Canvas & Technological Information

To log into Canvas or for help logging in to Canvas, visit My CR Portal. For help with Canvas once you're logged in, click on the Help icon on the left menu. For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160.
Canvas online orientation workshop: Canvas Student Orientation Course (instructure.com)

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact Admissions & Records to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed on Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the Student Information Update form.

Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, bipolar disorder, and ADHD
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders, and diseases
- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- A learning disability (e.g., dyslexia, reading comprehension), intellectual disability, autism, or acquired brain injury
- Vision, hearing, or mobility challenges

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, tutoring, counseling and advising, alternate formats of materials (e.g., audio books, E-texts), assistive technology, on-campus transportation, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact DSPS for a consultation: dsps@redwoods.edu.

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, Student Services Building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, Main Building, near the library

- Klamath-Trinity: 707-476-4280

Student Support Services

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:
- CR-Online (Comprehensive information for online students)
- Library Articles & Databases
- Canvas help and tutorials
- Online Student Handbook
- Online Tutoring Resources

To learn more about the resources available to you, click on a title bar below, or click the down arrow to expand them all.

Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Community College Student Health and Wellness

If you are in distress or are with someone at risk right now, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or TEXT 741-741

Timely Care
When you're feeling under the weather physically or distressed mentally, you can find the help you're looking for in just a few quick taps. Students can schedule an appointment anytime via phone, video, and chat. Visit TimelyCARE here

Mental Health Counseling
Students should text, email, or fax Shawna Bell directly for scheduling and/or services.
Contact info
Text: 707-496-2856
Email: shawnabmft@gmail.com
Fax: 707-237-2318 (voicemail can be left via fax)

Wellness Central
Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges Wellness Central.

Counseling

Counseling & Advising can assist students in need of academic advising and professional counseling services. Visit the Welcome Center in the lower level of the student services building Monday –Friday 9am – 4pm (during the semester, summer hours may vary).

Basic Needs Center

The Basic Needs Center provides for the health and safety of students by providing access to healthy food, financial resources, and referrals to safe and secure housing. Students can submit a request for services and information here.
Contact info
Phone: 707-476-4153
Email: the-grove@redwoods.edu

Learning Resource Center

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)
- [Academic Support Center](#) – offers tutoring and test proctoring for CR students.
- [Student Tech Help](#) – provides students with assistance around a variety of tech problems.

EOPS

[Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS)Links to an external site.](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook awards, grants, career academic and personal counseling, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!

TRiO Student Success Program

The TRiO Student Support Services Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including academic advising, career assessments, assistance with transfer, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#).

Veterans Resource Center

The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.

CalWORKS

CalWORKs – California Work Opportunity & Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs). Provides supportive services to student parents with children under the age of 18, who are receiving cash assistance (TANF **benefits**), to become self-sufficient. Services include: transportation assistance, basic student supplies, tutoring, priority registration, laptop and calculator loans, career, academic, and personal counseling, and more!

Spring 2024 Dates

January 12	Last day to register for classes (day before the first class meeting)
January 13	Classes begin
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Holiday (District-wide closure)
January 19	Last day to add a class
January 26	Last day to drop without a "W" and receive a refund
January 29	Census Date (20% of class)
February 16	Lincoln's Birthday Holiday (District-wide closure)
February 19	President's Day Holiday (District-wide closure)

March 7	Last day to petition to graduate
March 29	Last day for student initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)
March 29	Last day for faculty initiated withdrawal (62.5% of class)
March 11-16	Spring break (no classes)
April 1st	Cesar Chavez Day (no classes)
May 4-10	Final Examinations
May 10	Last day to file for P/NP Option
May 10	Semester Ends
May 17	Grades due
May 24	Grades available

AI Use Class Policy

Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. However, overuse of these tools in this class can undermine your learning and curtail the development of your critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, this class's policy is that AI cannot be used at any point in the completion of class assignments unless specifically included as part of the assignment, including discussion posts. Any or all assignment submissions and discussion posts may be screened by AI detection software, but the real penalty for AI misuse is that you will miss out on an opportunity to learn.

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

Emergency Procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'
Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the Redwoods Public Safety.
In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

To learn more about campus-specific Emergency Procedures, click on a title bar below, or click the down arrow to expand them all.