Fall 2025

College of the Redwoods

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2025

Course ID & Section #number: BIOL-1-V9326

Instructor’s name: Linnea Anderson

Day/Time of required meetings: Weekly Canvas Check-ins

Course units: 4

Instructor Contact Information

Office location or Online: [https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/20527 (https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/20527)](https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/20527)

Office hours: by request via Zoom – evenings and weekends

Email address: linnea-anderson@redwoods.edu

Communication notes: Canvas Inbox is preferred method of communication

Required Material

Textbook: Your textbook is completely free online. I do not officially **require** the book but it's a great resource for supplemental reading. You can find links to the textbook chapters each week on Canvas, or **here (https://openstax.org/details/books/concepts-biology)** . If you already purchased the book, don't see it as a waste of money. Having a physical paper copy of a book can be very useful!

Other Materials: You will be doing all of your labs from the comfort of your own home. There will be a few **required materials (https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/20527/pages/lab-materials)** for the labs that you can pick up from most any grocery store (shouldn't cost more than $30, depending on what you already have on hand). More information will be provided in Canvas (you don't need to purchase extra materials immediately).

Catalog Description

An introductory course in life science dealing with basic biological concepts including molecular and cell biology, metabolism, heredity, evolution, ecology, natural history, and biodiversity. *Note: This course is designed for non-science majors and nursing/health occupation students. Not open to students who have completed or who are currently enrolled in BIOL-3.*

Course Student Learning Outcomes

- Apply the scientific method to critically evaluate observable phenomena.
- Describe attributes of life and how cells fulfill these characteristics.
- Relate the mechanisms of evolutionary change to the production of biological diversity.

Course Calendar

Week	Date			Lecture Topic	Textbook Chapter - OpenStax Concepts of Biology	Lab
1	Aug	25th	to	Introduction to Science	Ch 1: Introduction to Biology (1.2)	Lab 1: Doing Science
	Aug	31st		Introduction to Biology	Ch 1: Introduction to Biology (1.1)	
2	Sept	1st	to	Chemistry of Life	Ch 2: Chemistry of Life (2.1-2.2)	Lab 2: Chemistry of Life
	Sept	7th		Biological Molecules	Ch 2: Chemistry of Life (2.3)	
3	Sept	8th	to	Cell Structure and Function	Ch 3: Cell Structure and Function (3.1-3.3)	Lab 3: Scopes and Cells
	Sept	14th		Membrane Transport	Ch 3: Cell Structure and Function (3.4-3.6)	
4	Sept	15th	to	Energy/Enzymes	Ch 4: How Cells Obtain Energy (4.1)	Lab 4: Diffusion and Osmosis
	Sept	21st		Cellular Respiration	Ch 4: How Cells Obtain Energy (4.2-4.5)	
5	Sept	22nd	to	Photosynthesis	Ch 5: Photosynthesis	Lab 5: Enzymes
	Sept	28th		Cell Cycle/Mitosis	Ch 6: Reproduction at the Cellular Level	
6	Sept	29th	to	DNA Structure/Replication	Ch 9: Molecular Biology (9.1-9.2)	Lab 6: Fermentation
	Oct	5th		Transcription/Translation	Ch 9: Molecular Biology (9.3-9.5)	
7	Oct	6th	to	Review	Review Chapters 1-6, 9	Lab 7: DNA
	Oct	12th				
8	Oct	13th	to	Exam 1	Exam 1	Lab 8: Mitosis
	Oct	19th				
9	Oct	20th	to	Meiosis/Sexual Reproduction	Ch 7: The Cellular Basis of Inheritance and Ch 18	Lab 9: Meiosis & Heredity
	Oct	26th				
	Oct	27th	to	Mendelian Genetics	Ch 8: Patterns of Inheritance (8.1)	Lab 10:Build a Terrarium
	Nov	2nd		Laws of Inheritance	Ch 8: Patterns of Inheritance (8.2)	

11	Nov	3rd	to	Mechanisms of Evolution	Ch 11: Evolution and Its Processes (11.1-11.2)	Lab 11: Human Heredity
	Nov	9th		Evidence of Evolution	Ch 11: Evolution and Its Processes (11.3-11.5)	
12	Nov	10th	to	Diversity of Life	Ch 12: Diversity of Life	Lab 12: Classification & Tree Thinking
	Nov	16th		Diversity of Microbes	Ch 13: Diversity of Microbes, Fungi and Protists	
13	Nov	17th	to	Diversity of Protists and Fungi	Ch 13: Diversity of Microbes, Fungi and Protists	Lab 13: Natural Selection
	Nov	23rd		Diversity Plants	Ch 14: Diversity of Plants	
Nov 24th to Nov 30th				Fall Break - No Classes		
14	Dec	1st	to	Diversity of Animals	Ch 15: Diversity of Animals	Lab 14: Biodiversity Field Trip
	Dec	7th		Ecology	Ch 19 and 20: Population/Community Ecology	
15	Dec	8th	to	Review	Review (Chapters 7-8, 11-15, 17, 19-20)	Lab 15: Analyze your Terrarium
	Dec	14th				
Finals Week	Dec	15th	to	Exam 2	Exam 2	No Lab - Finals Week
	Dec	17th				

Evaluation & Grading Policy

1. **Exams (35%)**

There will be **two midterm exams**. Each midterm will cover half of the course material. Notice of accommodations according to the Americans with Disabilities Act, should be made known 2 s prior to any exam.

2. **Quizzes (15%)**

Weekly open note/book quizzes. These quizzes will cover lecture material and reading assignments from *Concepts of Biology* for the week. Late quizzes will be accepted for 2 days past the due date for 50% credit.

3. **Lab Reports (25%)**

Weekly "kitchen" labs with experimental data, calculations, and questions. Most labs can be completed using materials commonly found in homes. Late labs will be accepted for 2 days past the due date for 75% credit. Must complete at least 11 of the 15 labs to earn greater than a C for the course.

4. **Interactive Assignments (15%)**

Weekly interactive assignment. This will include interactive websites or handouts to encourage creative thinking on the lecture topic for the week. Late Interactive Assignments will be accepted for 2 days past the due date for 50% credit.

5. **Discussions (10%)**

As an online course, you'll be required to check in regularly to discuss the material. You will be required to participate in discussions weekly via Canvas. There will be a discussion to talk about lecture material with opportunities to earn points for just asking questions. **Missed discussions cannot be made up.**

The purpose of grading is to get an idea of how well you are mastering the material in this course. They help you pinpoint troublesome topics that might trip you up in future courses. There are a billion grades in the gradebook, which means you have a billion opportunities to earn points and improve your grade. Everything in the gradebook is driven by your performance on the assessments in the course…and nothing else. In other words, it doesn't matter how much I love you…the grades you EARN on assignments will translate into the grade you EARN in the class.

I will use the following scale to determine the letter grade you earn in my class:

A = 100.0 – 93.00% B+ = 89.99 – 87.0% C+ = 79.99 – 77.0% D = 69.99 – 60.0%

A- = 92.99 – 90.0% B = 86.99 – 83.0% C = 76.99 – 70.0% F = < 59.99%

B- = 82.99 – 80.0%

I will NOT bump grades higher than the exact percentage you earn. This means that there is no rounding up. Since grade-boundaries are by definition, arbitrary, there is no good rationale for letting the boundaries slide; there will always be a cut-off and there will always be someone who is close, but not quite there. Be grateful for the BILLION opportunities you have to earn

points as outlined in this syllabus. The grade reported in Canvas is the grade you will earn in the course.

Prerequisites / Co-requisites / Recommended Preparation

Advisory: ENGL102 - Developing Reading and Writing or ENGL150 - Precollegiate Reading and Writing

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, or bipolar disorder
- 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
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the **LIGHT Center (https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php)**, counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g. audio books or E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact **Student Accessibility Support Services (SASS) ://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php)**.

If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact SASS for a consultation: **SASS@redwoods.edu (mailto:SASS@redwoods.edu)**.

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280,
- Locations: Student Services building, first floor SS113

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: Main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- 707-476-4280