Syllabus for Human Biology (BIOL-8-E9343)

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2025

Course ID & Section number: BIOL-8-E9343 (059343)

Instructor’s name: Julie Kelly

Day/Time of required meetings:

- Lecture - Tuesday and Thursday 12:20pm to 1:45pm
- Lab
  - Section BIOL-8-E9343 (059343): Tuesday 2:00pm to 5:10pm
  - Section BIOL-8-E9344 (059344): Thursday 2:00pm to 5:10pm

Location:

- Lecture - Humanities Building, Room HU 110
- Lab - Science Building, Room SC 104

Course units: 4

Instructor Contact Information

Office hours: One-on-one meeting by arrangement

Email address: julie-kelly@redwoods.edu

Study Sessions: To Be Announced

Communication Between Student and Professor:

1. I will check email and respond to students within 24 hours (not including weekends or holidays).
2. You will check Canvas Announcements and CR email regularly.
3. You will check Feedback on every Human Biology assignment.

Required Material

1. Lecture textbook: OpenStax Biology 2e, is a FREE and open text, built by OpenStax College textbooks. You can access this text through the OpenStax website (**Link to OpenStax Free Textbooks (http://openstax.org)**). At the website you can view the textbook online, download a PDF, or buy a print copy.
2. Lab Manual: Lab Manual will be provided as a PDF file on Canvas. Students should have either a paper copy or electronic version of the lab procedures during each lab.
3. A method for taking notes.

Catalog Description

A survey of human biology focusing on concepts in cell biology, genetics, anatomy, physiology, disease, and evolution as they relate to the human body. Students apply and evaluate these concepts in laboratory activities that include microscopy, experimentation, and dissection.

Note: This course satisfies life science general education requirements at CR and CSU. Students who have completed BIOL-1 should NOT take this course, unless they are planning on entering the LVN program. This course is required in the first semester of the LVN program. If you have completed BIOL-1, BIOL-6 and BIOL-7, please speak with a

counselor or advisor before enrolling in this class.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Use the scientific method to design experiments that include data collection and analysis.
2. Describe the structural, metabolic, and reproductive characteristics of diverse cell types related to human health, and explain how changes in cell function can be correlated with disease.
3. Relate the structure and function of human organ systems to the maintenance of bodily homeostasis.
4. Describe specific examples of the genetic basis of human anatomy, physiology, behavior, and disease, and explain how genetic variation impacts human evolution.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Points breakdown

Lecture			
	3 Lecture Exams (100 points each)		300 pts
	Lecture Participation Points (24 x 3)		
		(Two Lecture Discussions will be subtracted)	72 pts
	Lecture Discussion (25 x 3)		
		(Two Lecture Participation Activities will be subtracted)	75 pts

	Lecture Homework		20 pts
Lab			
	Lab Reports (12 x 20)		
		(One lab report will be subtracted)	240 pts
	Lab quizzes (4 x 20)		80 pts
	Lab exam		100 pts
			_____
		Total	887 points

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

100 – 93% = A 89.9 – 87% = B+ 79.9 – 77% = C+ 69.9 – 60% = D

92.9 – 90% = A- 86.9 – 83% = B 76.9 – 70% = C < 59.9% = F

82.9 – 80% = B-

Prerequisites / Co-requisites / Recommended Preparation

There are no requisites for this course.

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) (https://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

Academic Integrity

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic integrity, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has

demonstrated a lack of academic integrity, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and 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 2024-2025 College Catalog and CR Board and Administrative Policies.

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. Sometimes, using these tools appropriately can help us overcome barriers and allow us to focus on deeper learning. However, overuse of these tools can undermine the development of our critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, it is sometimes appropriate and sometimes inappropriate to use generative AI in the completion of assignments or in discussion posts. For this class, please see the specific assignment instructions for guidance on how and when generative AI tools may be used appropriately as we're working on and learning from a particular assignment. Also, please keep in mind that you are responsible for anything you submit; please carefully review all AI-generated outputs, screening them for accuracy, bias, appropriateness, and fidelity to your perspective.

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. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the **2024-2025 College Catalog (https://redwoods.elumenapp.com/catalog/2024-2025/home)** and **CR Board and Administrative Policies (https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/**

Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies) .

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. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

CR FALL 2025 SEMESTER IMPORTANT DATES:

09/01 - Labor Day Holiday (All campuses closed.)

09/05 – last day to drop students without a W grade and receive a refund (day before census day)

09/07– last day to drop students without a W grade – no refund

09/07 – last day to add students to your classes (day before census day)

09/08 – CENSUS DAY

10/31 – last day to drop students with a W

11/11 - Veteran's Day Holiday (All campuses closed.)

11/24 - 11/28 Fall Break (All campuses closed.)

12/19 - Last Day of Classes

Emergency procedures / Emergency Alert System (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 (https://redwoods.instructure.com/http://%20https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu) (https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu)** and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Policies for Human Biology

Our contract

This syllabus is a contract between us.

My assumptions about you

- You are here to learn, and you are motivated to truly master the content.
- You understand that you are responsible for your own learning. The degree to which you LEARN the content is entirely up to YOU and the time you are willing and able to put into the class.
- You will regularly check email, Canvas Announcements, Canvas Discussions, and Canvas Assignment Feedback for communications about this class.

Your assumptions about me

- I am fully committed to helping you learn about biology.
- I will offer prompt and valuable feedback to guide your progress.
- I will provide engaging, relevant, and creative activities to help you master the course content.
- I will provide regular communication about this class through email, Canvas Announcements, Canvas Discussions, and Canvas Assignment Feedback.

Class participation and Attendance policy

All of us in the class, you, me, your peers, have a responsibility to create an environment in which we can all learn from each other. I expect everyone to participate in class so that we can all benefit from the insights and experiences that each person brings.

Lecture:

Course lecture content will be provided to students in a face-to-face lecture.

1. Lecture study guides and slides will be provided.
2. Lectures will be recorded and videos will be provided on Canvas.
3. Review OpenStax Biology 2e textbook to clarify topics.
4. Attend Study Sessions.

Lecture Discussions

After each lecture, students will participate in online **Canvas Lecture Discussions.**

Lecture Exams

MAKE-UP EXAMS ARE ONLY OFFERED WITH A WRITTEN MEDICAL EXCUSE and must be taken within one week of the scheduled exam. Make-up exams will be entirely essay questions that are not the same as the ones on the regularly scheduled exam.

Lab Stuff:

1. Bring lab procedures, found in Canvas, to each lab.
2. Lab Reports will be due at the beginning of the next lab.
3. It is considered cheating for any 2 or more people to have exactly the same answers for any portion of a lab report.
4. Lab quizzes will cover the previous labs.
5. Lab exam and lab quizzes are open lab notes. While taking the lab quizzes, you may use your lab report and any notes that you took during the lab.

Illness Protocols:

If you become sick, please stay at home until you feel better.

One lab report, two lecture discussions, and two lecture participation activities will be dropped and will not be considered in the total calculation of the final grade so that you can stay home and get better. Students can attend the study sessions to catch up on the material that they missed.

Fall 2025 BIOL-8 Tentative Schedule

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Week			Lecture Topic	Textbook OpenStax Biology 2e	Laboratory
1	T	8/26	Syllabus / Life and Science	Ch 1: Introduction to Biology	Lab 1: Chemistry of life
	Th	8/28	Introduction to Chemistry	Ch 2: Chemical Foundation of Life	
2	T	9/2	Chemistry of Life / The Cell	Ch 3: Macromolecules / Ch 4: Cell Structure	Lab 2: Microscopes, Cells, and Osmosis
	Th	9/4	The Cell Membrane / Membrane Transport	Ch 5: Structure and function of Plasma Membranes	
3	T	9/9	DNA Structure and Protein Synthesis / DNA Replication	Ch 14: DNA structure and function / Ch 15:Genes and Proteins	Lab 3: Mitosis and Meiosis
	Th	9/11	Mitosis / Meiosis	Ch 10: Cell Reproduction / Ch 11: Meiosis and Sexual Reproduction	
4	T	9/16	Human Inheritance	Ch 12: Mendel's Experiments / Ch 13: Inheritance	LAB QUIZ - Lab 4: Human inheritance
	W	9/18	Implact of Genetic Variation on Human Evolution	Ch 19: The Evolution of Populations	
5	T	9/23	Tissues, Organs, and Skin	Ch 33: The Animal Body	Lab 5: Epithelial and Connective Tissue /
	Th	9/25	EXAM 1		
6	T	9/30	Digestive System	Ch 34: Digestive System	Lab 6: Digestive System
	Th	10/2	Enzymes/ Glycolysis/ Cellular Respiration	Ch 6: Metabolism / Ch 7: Cellular Respiration	
7	T	10/7	Bones and Skeletal System	Ch 38: The Musculoskeletal System	LAB QUIZ Lab 7: Bones
	Th	10/9	Muscles and Muscular System	Ch 38: The Musculoskeletal System	

8	T	10/14	Muscle Contraction and Joints	Ch 38: The Musculoskeletal System	Lab 8: Muscles and reflexes
	Th	10/16	Nervous System	Ch 35: The Nervous System (Ch 9.1: Signaling Molecules)	
9	T	10/21	Ears and Eyes	Ch 36: Sensory Systems	Lab 9: Nervous System and Sense Organs
	Th	10/23	Endocrine system	Ch 37: Endocrine System (Ch 9.1)	
10	T	10/28	Cardiovascular System and Blood	Ch 40: The Circulatory System	Lab 10: Cardiovascular System
	Th	10/30	EXAM 2		
11	T	11/4	Blood Vessels/ Blood Pressure	Ch 40: The Circulatory System	LAB QUIZ Lab 11: Blood
	Th	11/6	Respiratory System	Ch 40: The Repiratory System	
12	T	11/11	Veteran's Day Holiday		NO LAB
	Th	11/13	Respiratory System	Ch 40: The Repiratory System	
13	T	11/18	Urinary System	Ch 41: Osmotic Regulation and Excretion	Lab 12: Respiratory System
	Th	11/20	Urinary System	Ch 41: Osmotic Regulation and Excretion	
	T	11/25	Thanksgiving Holiday		
	Th	11/27			
14	T	12/2	Innate Immune Sytem	Ch 42: Immune System	LAB QUIZ Lab 13: Excretory System
	Th	12/4	Adaptive Immune System	Ch 42: Immune System	
15	T	12/9	Human Reproduction	Ch 43: Animal Reproduction	LAB EXAM
	Th	12/11	Review		
16	Th	12/18	FINAL EXAM: Thursday 1:00pm -3:00pm		