



UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN TIRANA
Course Syllabus- Fall 2007

Course: Biology today (3 credit hours)

Professor: Elona Gjebrea Hoxha

Lecture Hours: Monday 9.00-12.00

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Catalog Description

This course examines the principles of molecular biology and human biology for students who are not Biology majors.

Course Purpose

This course is an introduction to the concepts and principles of biology, for students who are not Biology majors. The course will be "topic oriented" and will stress the interesting aspects of various biological systems, as well as the important aspects of the natural world that surround us. Biochemical topics will be presented (however not at a technical level) so that the interested students will have an adequate background for the understanding of more advanced material

Required Readings:

BIOLOGY, Peter H.Raven and George B.Johnson ,1999

Course Objectives: At the end of the module the students will be able to apply their critical thinking skills, research skills and technology applications on the biology issues.

Content of the Course

The following chapters are selected:

- Chapter 1: Biology, Exploring Life
- Chapter 3: The Atomic Basis of Life
- Chapter 4: The Molecules of Life
- Chapter 6: The Cell
- Chapter 7: Membrane Transport
- Chapter 5: Enzymes

- Chapter 9: Photosynthesis
- Chapter 11: Mitosis
- Chapter 12: Meiosis
- Chapter 15: The Nervous System
- Chapter 16: The Endocrine System
- Chapter 18: The Digestive and Excretory System
- Chapter 20: The Circulatory and Immune System
- Chapter 23: Animal Reproduction
- Chapter 30: Origin and History of Life
- Chapter 36: Ecosystems and Communities

Course Requirements

Participation: Participation extends beyond mere attendance. Expect your instructor to keep track of how often you contribute to class discussion (as a whole), particularly during the panel discussion section. You may miss up to three classes without penalty - your first two absences count whether you have a good excuse or not. Each absence beyond the first three will cost you points off of your participation grade. The only exceptions to this rule are severe illness (doctor's note required) and UNYP approved trips/activities. Appropriate documentation for absences beyond the first three is necessary the class day directly before or after the one you miss. In general: this class is intensive and interactive. Missing class could seriously affect your grade! Students are reminded not to approach the instructor for copies of the previous week's materials during immediately before, during, or immediately after class. Students are expected to collect materials from their classmates or see the instructor during consultation hours.

Exams: Two examinations will be taken, one (mid term) and a final exam covering all course content during the final examination period. Test format may combine a mixture of short answer, true/false, matching, sort answer, and one or two essay questions covering *all* readings, lecture, hand-out and class discussion content. Two quiz will be taken before and after the mid term examination.

General Requirements

Absence from tests will *not* be tolerated.

In the event of illness or emergency, contact your instructor IN ADVANCE to determine whether special arrangements are possible. The University's rules on academic dishonesty (e.g. cheating, plagiarism, submitting false information) will be strictly enforced. Please familiarize yourself with the STUDENT HONOUR CODE, or ask your instructor for clarification.

Criteria for Determination of Grade, including Evaluation Methods

Participation	10%
Quiz 1st	10%
Quiz 2nd	10%
Midterm	30%
Final	40%

Letter Grade	Percent (%)	Generally Accepted Meaning
A	96-100	Outstanding work
A-	90-95	
B+	87-89	Good work, distinctly above average
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet minimum standards for passing the course

Technology Expectations: Power-point, excel, graphical displays etc. will be used during the lectures hours.

Note: In the case of learning difficulties please contact Mrs.Anxhela Gramo that works as coordinator of the Department of Psychology at the UNYT