EVOLUTION AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE- BIO 1010 Section A

Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION:

a. Title: Evolution and Diversity of Life (BIOL 1010 Section A)
b. Instructor: Dr. Timothy Henkel (tphenkel@valdosta.edu)
c. Office: Bailey Science Center 2212
d. Office Hours: MW: 11:00am-12:00 pm and by appointment
e. Class Meets: MW 2:00 ç 3:15, Bailey Science Center 1011

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the diversity of life on Earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationship
-Co-requisite BIOL 1020L

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course fulfills one portion of Area D of the Learning Outcomes for Valdosta State Universlúèîă Core Curriculum: Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems. 3 Tm -1 0 0 1 72.1 160.Id66

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Learning is not a passive activity in which you simply absorb and repeat back facts given by an instructor. Rather, learning requires you to take an active role. In fact, to truly understand science you must construct your own personal interpretation of the concepts and store them away in a form that is meaningful to you.

Students will be assigned reading material. Facts and vocabulary are important to any discipline, though I ask you to go beyond simple memorization of details and interconnect those facts to concepts, applications and problems; to ask meaningful questions; to test well developed hypotheses; to develop a range of intellectual abilities, including critical thinking, logical argument, appropriate uses of evidence and interpretation of varied kinds of information; and to communicate your understanding in writing and orally to multiple audiences.

COMMUNICATION:

Email: Email is the simplest way to contact me outside of class and is the quickest way for me to contact you as well. You are required to check and maintain your Valdosta State University email account. I will only communicate with you through this official email account.

Blazeview: We will be using Blazeview throughout the semester as a tool for sharing information. I will post course notes after each class to the website, as well as provide additional resources, readings, and homework assignments. All official course information is located on Blazeview and students are expected to regularly access the Blazeview website.

Notes on emailing your professor:
In order to get a reply to your emails you must do the following in your email communication:

Include your course number and section in the subject line of any email.
Communicate as you would at work and in a professional manner. This includes using proper grammar and spelling, a greeting and salutation, and be sure to include your full name at the end of all emails.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: You are expected to attend all scheduled course activities, and active participation is part of your course grade. Because of the nature and structure of the class, attendance is vital to your success in the course.

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GRADING PROCEDURES: Letter grades will be assigned based on the following tables:

Course Component	% of Course Grade
Exams (best 3 of 4	

ACCESS OFFICE:

Tentative Topics and Reading Assignments

Date		Topic	Chapter Reading
Jan	7	How will this course work?	
	9	How is science a way of knowing?	1
	14-16	Why are there different environments?	38
	21	MLK Day - No Class	
	23	What is a population?	36
	28	How do populations grow?	36
	30	Exam 1	
Feb	4-6	What is a community?	37
	11	How do trophic interactions alter community structure?	37
	13	How do communities change?	37
	18	How do matter and energy move through ecosystems?	37
	20	Exam 2	
	25	What makes organisms different?	7