

BIOL 1107K, Principles of Biology I
Spring Semester, 2012 Sections D, E, F

engage students in the learning process and to facilitate rapid feedback for exams. For each clicker question presented in lecture, a point value will be assigned. Clicker questions will, or can, be presented throughout the lecture class period. Occasionally, longer lecture quizzes will be given using clicker input. All responses to questions presented during lecture will be compiled at the end of the course. The grade for this component will be the number of questions answered correctly divided by the number of points available times 100. The final computed clicker grade is the only grade that might be significantly scaled to adjust for overall class performance! For any absence, clicker points can never be made up and all points will count for all students.

Due to the size of this class, any student without a “clicker” will not have their responses recorded and there is no way to circumvent this. It is the student’s responsibility to bring their working clicker with them to every lecture to insure that their points are recorded. Due to the nature of the “instantaneous” response with this method, there are no alternatives to collecting clicker points. If you do not have your clicker, if your battery is dead, or you are prevented in any way from using your clicker, your clicker points for that day will not be recorded.

Dropped grade: The lowest score you receive among either the three lecture exams or the combined lecture clicker grade will be excluded (dropped) and will not be used for computing your final grade. Therefore, although there are 400 possible points from lecture exams and pop-quizzes (excluding the final), only 300 of those points will count toward your final grade. **The final exam (100 pts) is mandatory.**

Laboratory: (100 pts) Students will be graded on their performance in laboratory based on attendance, weekly quiz grades, selected homework assignments, group lab projects, and other miscellaneous assignments. As the laboratory is considered an extremely important part to learning “hands-on” biology, any student will automatically lose points (14 labs in course) from their final lab grade for any absence from laboratory.

Final grades will be based on a percentage of your cumulative points relative to the total points possible:

Lecture Exams: 300 pts

- No talking will be allowed during the exam, but students are welcome to come to the instructor's desk to ask questions about the exam. If a cell phone rings during an exam, disrupting the exam, the student will be asked to leave. ***Turn off your cell phones during exams!***
- Every student should bring their University ID.

BlazeView. Some resources will be made available through BlazeView. To access BlazeView, select the link near the upper right corner of the Valdosta State University homepage or go directly to the following address.

[http://blazeview.valdosta.edu/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct.](http://blazeview.valdosta.edu/webct/entryPageIns.dowebct)

Students experiencing difficulties using BlazeView should seek assistance through the VSU Microcomputing & System Services HELP-Desk located in Odum Library (telephone 245-4357).

Mid-term, or in-progress grades: The instructor is required to submit in-progress grades prior to mid-term (3/1/12). In this course, students will have feedback on at least one major exam by midterm, several lecture quizzes, lab quizzes, etc.. Because the grading procedure in this course is designed to allow students to recover from initial failures (e.g. one major exam grade is dropped), all students at midterm still have the potential of passing the course. Even a failing mid-term grade can be changed to a grade of excellence (e.g. "A") by the end

Students with Disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498

LABORATORY EXERCISES

Date:	Topic:
Jan. 11-12	Laboratory Safety: Exercise 1: "The Black Box" - Scientific Method;
Jan. 18-19	Exercise 2: Basic Light Microscope Operation and Microscope checkout: Use of the Light Microscope
Jan. 25-26	Exercise 3: Light Microscopy Observations of cells and organisms; Basic "5 Kingdom" levels of organization; Independent microscopy lab proposals discussed.
Feb. 1-2	Exercise 4: Independent Microscopy Projects; Project proposal lab
Feb. 8-9	Exercise 4: Independent Microscopy Projects: Distribution of microscopic flora and fauna; Data collection lab
Feb. 15-16	Exercise 5: Cellular Water Relations
Feb. 22-23	Exercise 6: Protein extraction from biological tissues and determination of total protein, Spectrophotometry and Standard Curves
Feb. 29	Exercise 7: Enzymology Lab: basics of α -amylase activity;
Mar. 7-8	Exercise 8: Enzyme Regulation: "Investigation of the effects of temperature and pH on enzyme activity"
Mar. 14-15	Spring Break, No Labs
Mar. 21-22	Exercise 9: Photosynthesis
Mar. 21-22	Exercise 10: Mitosis / cell division
Mar. 28-29	Exercise 11: Start: Isolation of plasmid DNA from <i>E.coli</i> and restriction with MspA11 and Start: Exercise 12: PCR-based VNTR Human DNA typing
Apr. 4-5	Finish Exercise 11, 12: Agarose Gel Electrophoresis
Nov. 11-12	Exercise 13: Identification of foodstuffs from genetically modified organisms. Finish gels for exercise 11 and 12.
Nov. 18-19	Exercise 14: Transformation of the pGLO plasmid into bacteria.
Nov. 25-26	Finish analyses, Lab Clean-Up, Last Quiz

VSU administration has required that certain elements be included in all class syllabi. One of these requirements is that relevant course learning outcomes must be linked to the VSU General Educational Outcomes at <http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/VSUGeneralEducationOutcomes.shtml> and to the Biology Department educational outcomes listed on page 113 of the current undergraduate catalog (2009-10). Students should be aware that the Biology department learning outcomes are extremely general and a more appropriate detailed outline of the learning outcomes we expect are represented by tr

