

0704B100

Introductory Biology

Time: May 18, 2026 - June 19, 2026

Office Hours: By Appointment

Contact Hours: 45 (50 minutes each)

Credits: 3

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Course Description

Biological Science is all around us and affects every aspect of our lives and every facet of life on Planet Earth. The goal of this course is to furnish students with the basic foundation, information, and analytical tools necessary to grasp the fundamental concepts central to the study of biology. This is a vast and highly diverse subject, and thus will require an overview approach in a short course such as this one. We will cover the most important areas in some detail, while in parallel, striving to achieve a balanced view of the big picture ideas.

Required Textbook(s)

Biology Today and Tomorrow, With Physiology (2021), 6th Edition, by: Cecie Starr, Christine A. Evers, and Lisa Starr (ISBN-13 for e-textbook: 9780357999882; ISBN-13 for hardcopy textbook: 9780357127544).

Prerequisites

No prerequisites required.

Course Goals

- The scientific method
- Principles of evolution and the means by which evolution is studied
- The structure of cells and explain the function of the cellular organelles
- The processes involved in cellular division
- Ecosystem structure and function
- Biological information
- Various animal and plant systems and how they function

Course Schedule

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts this course. Changes may occur in this calendar as needed to aid in the student's development.

Week 1

- Chapter 1: Invitation to Biology.
- Chapter 2: Molecules of Life.
- Chapter 3: Cell Structure.
- Chapter 4: Energy and Metabolism.
- Chapters 5 & 6: Photosynthesis/Releasing Chemical Energy.

Week 2

- Chapter 7: DNA Structure and Function.
- Chapter 8: Gene Expression and Control.
- Chapter 9: How Cells Reproduce.

- Chapter 10: Patterns of Inheritance.
- Chapter 11: Biotechnology.

Week 3

- Chapter 12: Evidence of Evolution.
- Chapter 13: Processes of Evolution.
- Chapter 14: Prokaryotes, Protists, and Viruses.
- Chapter 15: Plants and Fungi.
- Chapter 17: Population Ecology.
- **Mid-term Exam (Covering Chs. 1-10)**

Week 4

- Chapter 18: Communities and Ecosystems.
- Chapter 19: The Biosphere and Human Effects.
- Chapter 20: Animal Tissues and Organs.
- Chapter 21: How Animals Move.
- Chapter 22: Circulation and Respiration.

Week 5

- Chapter 23: Immunity.
- Chapter 24: Digestion and Excretion.
- Chapter 25: Neural Control and the Senses.
- Chapter 26: Endocrine Control.
- Chapter 27: Animal Reproduction and Development.
- Chapter 28: Plant Form and Function.
- Chapter 29: Life Cycles of Flowering Plants.
- **Final Exam**

Course Requirements

Students are expected to do all the readings for the week in their entirety before class. In addition to reading the assigned material, you are required to think about the material and analyze it in comparison to other subjects under consideration. This will greatly enhance the value and quality of our classroom sessions. Use of cell phones, iPhones, any and all forms of Social Network activities, and any other electronic communication, games, or internet devices in class hinders your learning, is disrespectful and is strictly prohibited.

Grading Policy

Your final grade is based on the following components:

Type	Percentage
Quizzes	40% of grade
Midterm Exam	30% of grade
Final Exam	30% of grade

Grading Scale

The instructor will use the grading system as applied by JNU:

Definition	Letter Grade	Score
Excellent	A	90~100
Good	B	80~89
Satisfactory	C	70~79
Poor	D	60~69
Failed	E	Below 60

Late Submission Penalty

If an assignment is turned in late, each day late results in a 15% reduction in the assignment's grade. For example, if an assignment was turned in three days late, then, 45% of the assignment's score would be deducted.

Academic Integrity

As members of the Jinan University academic community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities. Academic dishonesty, includes (but is not limited to) cheating on assignments or examinations; plagiarizing, i.e., misrepresenting as one's own work any work done by another; submitting the same paper, or a substantially similar paper, to meet the requirements of more than one course without the approval and consent of the instructors concerned; or sabotaging other students' work within these general definitions. Instructors; however, determine what constitutes academic misconduct in the courses they teach. Students found guilty of academic misconduct in any portion of the academic work face penalties that range from the lowering of their course grade to awarding a grade of E for the entire course.