

Course Outline

Biology 1225 Course Outline: Fall-Winter 2021-2022.

The scope of the course.

Biology 1225 is an online course offered to students who have no previous background in biology, it assumes no exposure to chemistry and maths, and no maths is involved in the course examinations other than the basic ratios in the Mendelian genetics section of the course.

Instructor: Dr. R.B. Gardiner. NCB 301J. 519-661-2111 ext 82241

Contact Details.

email: rgardine@uwo.ca

Contacting me by email is the quickest way to get feedback BUT be sure to understand that I will NOT respond to or read any email sent to me from a Biology 1225 student concerning any matter in Biology 1225 unless it is sent from that student's university email address. This is First year Biology department policy and it conforms to the requirements of the federal law (FIPPA) that mandates privacy of personal information.

The textbook for this course is entitled Biology: today and tomorrow, Sixth Edition, authors Starr, Evers and Starr. The text can be obtained at the UWO bookstore, and the ISBN is 978-0-357-12754-4. This textbook is essential, you cannot do Biology 1225 without it, other editions or versions of this text, or other textbooks, should not be used, and I cannot undertake to provide cross references if you happen to use an earlier text than the 5th edition.

Also needed is access to the odlgla online site where you get your assignments. This is important for you to have in order to take this course.

The course Topics

Basic chemistry

Cells and cell function

Metabolism and photosynthesis

DNA structure and function, protein synthesis

Cell reproduction, Mendelian genetics

Evolution

Diversity of life, history of life on earth

Basic descriptive features of taxa of plants and animals, protists, bacteria etc

Plant anatomy, function and reproduction

Ecology - population dynamics, competition, geochemical and other aspects influenced by humans such as global warming, ozone etc

Evaluation.

There are no tests or quizzes in this course. Online assignments will total 60% of your final marks.

1. The final exam is cumulative; it is not online and is closed book, It encompasses material from the textbook and the assignments. The exam is M?C, T/F - Scantron sheets or IFAT cards may be used. The final exam is worth 40%.

2. The online assignments (purchased from the company online) reinforce learning objectives, promote content mastery, and reinforce course learning objectives. Students' will complete an exercise approx. per week and submit it online for grading. Online exercises will collectively be worth 60% of the course grade (all exercises will be worth the same). Students should approach these as assignments and not tests. Work on the assignments can be done as a collaboration with other students but all submitted answers must be the students work alone. These is a late penalty of 20% of the individual exercise. Material found on the assignments and not the text book is still testable on the final exam.

Answers to a couple of frequently asked questions:

2) NO, you do NOT have to pass the final exam in order to get your credit for Biology 1225.

3). No, I cannot help you with providing details about location of off-campus exam centres. I would be happy to do that, but instructors dont have that information and we dont deal with it. You should address such questions to Distance Studies directly (distexam@uwo.ca). In general, all evaluations (online tests and the final exam) are done off-campus at the same date and time as for students on campus, and Distance Studies will contact you with locations of exam centres if you are writing exams off-campus.

Senate regulation requires me to post the following messages into the course outline:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Examinations in this course will be conducted using the remote proctoring service, such as Proctortrack. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. More information about this remote proctoring service is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. Information about the technical requirements are available at the following link:

<https://www.proctortrack.com/tech-requirements/>

Tests and examinations in this course will be conducted using Zoom. You will be required to keep your camera on for the entire session, hold up your student card for identification purposes, and share your screen with the invigilator if asked to do so at any time during the exam. The exam session will **not** be recorded.*

More information about the use of Zoom for exam invigilation is available in the Online Proctoring Guidelines at the following link:

<https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/onlineproctorguidelines.pdf>

Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system requirements for Zoom. Information about the system requirements are available at the following link:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

* Please note that Zoom servers are located outside Canada. If you would prefer to use only your first name or a nickname to login to Zoom, please provide this information to the instructor in advance of the test or examination.

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Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the system and technical requirements for both Zoom and Proctortrack. Information about the system and technical requirements are available at the following links:

<https://www.proctortrack.com/tech-requirements/>

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

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Support Services

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Counselling webpage for information on add/drop courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at (519) 661-2147 if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Western University is committed to a thriving campus as we deliver our courses in the mixed model of both virtual and face-to-face formats. We encourage you to check out the Digital Student Experience website to manage your academics and well-being: <https://www.uwo.ca/se/digital/>.

Learning-skills counsellors at the Student Development Centre (<http://www.sdc.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://www.health.uwo.ca/mental_health) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Additional student-run support services are offered by the USC, <http://westernusc.ca/services>.