RANGER COLLEGE

COURSE SYLLABUS

General Biology I

BIOL 1406

4 credit hours

INSTRUCTOR:

Gretchin Geye

INSTRUCTOR: Gretchin Geye
EMAIL: ggeye@rangercollege.edu (best method of contact)
OFFICE: Brown County Campus – no office
PHONE: 325-641-5627
HOURS: I am available Monday - Saturday from 9AM until 7PM, by email & can talk to you through Google Hangout or even FaceTime if you need more help.

I. Texas Core Curriculum Statement of Purpose

Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

II. Course Description

Fundamental principles of living organisms will be studied, including physical and chemical properties of life, organization, function, evolutionary adaptation, and classification. Concepts of cytology, reproduction, genetics, and scientific reasoning are included.

III. Required Background or Prerequisite

Passing score on TSI Reading section or equivalent alternate test is recommended.

IV. Required Textbook and Course Materials

YOUR TEXTBOOK IS INCLUDED IN IncludEd (UNLESS YOU ARE DUAL CREDIT)!!! You will not receive a hard copy of the text, but will have the option to order a loose-leaf copy once you have registered for the McGraw-Hill Connect website. The easiest and fastest method to get access to Connect is to go to "Start Here!", select "Get To Know Connect" and you will be taken to the website where you will register, pay for the Connect access & get started.

Connect Access Card for Biology: Concepts and Investigations

Hoefnagels 5e: Connect AC (2 semester) – 9781264354085

V. Course Purpose

Life Science courses focus on describing, explaining and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method. Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

VI. Learning Outcomes

1. Describe the process of science as a way to understand the natural world.
2. Describe the cell as the basic unit of life.
3. Describe the major metabolic pathways in cellular respiration and photosynthesis, and the role of enzymes and high-energy molecules, such as ATP, in these processes.
4. Describe the structure and expression of the genetic material in living organisms.
5. Describe the process of cellular division.
6. Describe the mechanics of passing characteristics from parent to offspring.
7. Describe the mechanism of organic evolution and adaptation.

VII. Core Objectives

This course meets the following of the six Core Objectives established by Texas:

☒ **Critical Thinking Skills (CT) –** Creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis; evaluation and synthesis of information

☒ **Communication Skills (COM) –** effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication

☒ **Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) –** The manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions

☒ **Teamwork (TW) –** The ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

☐ **Social Responsibility (SR) –** Intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

☐ **Personal Responsibility (PR) –** The ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making

VIII. Methods of Instruction

Reading/lectures/notes

Online practice, homework

LearnSmart with Connect Lab Access

Labs in which major biological principles will be demonstrated by examination of specimens, conducting experiments and viewing videos virtually.

IX. Methods of Assessment

Exams will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions and will cover all material discussed in class or in reading assignments. Each question will be graded as correct or incorrect in accordance with information in the text, lectures and readings. Exam grades will be taken as the points correct.

There will be NO MAKEUP EXAMS.

ONE LAB & 3 HOMEWORK (Practice/Learn Smart) will be dropped on the last day of class. (THIS REPRESENTS YOUR EXTRA CREDIT…there will be no other extra credit opportunities.)

The course grade will be computed as follows:

LEARN SMART	15%
DISCUSSION BOARDS	5%
EXAMS	30%
LAB	25%
FINAL EXAM	25%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

Grading scale: A = 90-100% B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

X. Course/Classroom Policies

1) THE FINAL EXAM MUST BE PROCTORED!!!! This means that you will either need to come to one of the Ranger College campuses to take the exam OR use the online proctoring website ProctorU. You can find a link to ProctorU on blackboard. The FINAL EXAM IS COMPREHENSIVE (over all content).
2) It is important that you understand there is both a LECTURE COMPONENT (75%) and a LAB COMPONENT (25%), however, your grade will be ONE grade as a combination of both. You will need to be very diligent in staying on top of both parts. Please check the calendar weekly to keep up with assignments and their due dates.
3) YOUR TEXTBOOK **IS** INCLUDED IN IncludEd (UNLESS YOU ARE DUAL CREDIT)!!! You MUST register through blackboard so that you will have access to the CONNECT site (with LABS), if you have trouble connecting to this please email me. The BEST way to assure you are getting the correct version of the electronic text is to go through your blackboard!! Click on the very first assignment "Get To Know Connect".

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   Instructions for connecting are ON BLACKBOARD!

4) All assignments and exams are open at the beginning of the semester, therefore you may work at your own pace EXCEPT that assignments/labs/tests **DO HAVE DUE DATES** that will be strictly adhered to. All Learn Smart & Learn Smart Labs will auto-submit at the due date!!! Please pay attention to all due dates. Due to the fact that ALL Exams/ Assignments are available at the beginning of the semester, you may NOT take an exam late! If you have an excused absence (athletic events and birthday parties are not excused events…you know about these ahead of time, plan accordingly) you may take the exam for a reduced grade! These are included in the syllabus, the calendar & there will be weekly announcements with due dates as well. FINAL EXAM may NOT be taken early, per Ranger College policy.

XII. Non-Discrimination Statement

Admissions, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

XIII. ADA Statement

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. Students are responsible for making initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor, Gabe Lewis (glewis@rangercollege.edu). It is advisable to make this contact before or immediately after the semester begins.