

BSC 2011C: General Biology II. Summer A

Department of Biology, College of Sciences

Number of Credit Hours: 4

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Instructor Information

- Instructor: [Dr. Joshua King](#)
- Office Location: Biological Sciences Building, room number BIO309
- Live Virtual Office Hours: schedule by email. Zoom sessions with undergraduate TA, Kaylee Clark, Mondays 9-10 am.
- Contact: joshua.king@ucf.edu

Laboratory Coordinator:

- Coordinator: Mr. Davide Dal Pos
- Office: Biological Sciences Building, room number BIO111
- Contact: Davide.DalPos@ucf.edu
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Laboratory Teaching Assistants:

- You will virtually meet with your GTAs via the individual laboratory portion of this course and will receive their contact information and office hours information via the laboratory Webcourses page.

Course Information

- Term: Summer A 2021
- Course Number & Section: BSC 2011C. Section 1
- Course Name: General Biology II
- Credit Hours: 4
- Class Catalog Days: M, T, W, Th and enrolled laboratory section
- Class Meeting Time:
The summer course is being offered as an asynchronous course. That is, lecture materials will be pre-recorded, readings and assessments will be offered online, and virtual office hours will be flexible and will not adhere to a regular schedule. The purpose of offering the course with this structure is to allow students the freedom of maintaining work and/or social distancing schedules without the burden of attending a fixed-schedule daily class.

Enrollment Requirements

Course Prerequisites: A “C” (2.0) or better in BSC 2010C (Biology I) or equivalent approved course. Preference will be given to students whose program requires this course.

Course Description

BSC 2011C (Biology II) is the second of a two-semester general biology sequence and a continuation of BSC 2010C (Biology I). Biology II serves as a pre-requisite for other, upper-level biology courses and/or as an admission requirement for many post-graduate programs.

The course discusses organismal anatomy and physiology as it relates to biodiversity, ecology and evolution. The course places an emphasis on analysis and synthesis of information, and applying data effectively as it relates to the course content and biological concepts discussed. To achieve this level of learning, in addition to lectures, BSC 2011C makes use of online pre- and post-lecture assignments and quizzes to help students learn content and to apply concepts across numerous, related biological topics.

General course topics are:

- Evolution
- Microbes (prokaryotes, eukaryotes and viruses)
- Plants (biodiversity and physiology)
- Animals (biodiversity, anatomy and physiology)
- Ecology

Required Course Materials

Webcourses

- BSC 2011C will use UCF's Webcourses for important course components such as access to course content and documents (e.g. copies of narrated Powerpoint slides, syllabus), online quizzes and assignments, grade posting and for the required downloading of laboratory materials.
- It is the your own responsibility to ensure you have access to our Webcourses and that you routinely check materials available there.
- You can access Webcourses through <https://my.ucf.edu> or directly through <https://webcourses.ucf.edu>, using your NID and NID password.

Textbook

The required textbook for this course [OpenStax Biology 2e](#) is available for **free** online.

Print ISBN 1947172514

Digital ISBN 1947172522

www.openstax.org/details/books/biology-2e

Since this textbook is an Open Educational Resource (OER), specific modules of the text, relevant to this course, have also been integrated into Webcourses Pages and Modules. **Students are highly encouraged to utilize this curated version of the online text in order to focus on the necessary content in an efficient manner.**

Students can also access the full text book in one of the following ways:

- [Online web view](#), for free -- the responsive design works on any device.
- [Download the PDF](#) for free -- it is recommended that you download the PDF in case of technical issues with the publisher website.
- [Purchase the book on iBooks](#) at a relatively low cost.
- [Purchase a print version](#) at a relatively low cost via the campus bookstore or from OpenStax on Amazon.com.

You can use whichever formats you want. Web view is recommended -- the responsive design works seamlessly on any device.

If you decide to buy on Amazon, make sure you use the link on your book page on openstax.org so you get the official OpenStax print version. (Simple printouts sold by third parties on Amazon are not verifiable and not as high-quality.)

Online labs:

Virtual labs and schedule can be accessed via your BIO II lab page and the labs are all available here: <https://webcourses.ucf.edu/courses/1379545>

Communication

Who to contact, when?

- **Contact Instructor (Dr. King):**
 - If your question is about *course content* from lecture or lecture *exam content*.
 - If your question is about *procedures* (e.g., grading, your grade, make-up exam times etc.)
- **Contact Biology 2 Lab Coordinator (Davide Dal Pos):**
 - Contact Mr. Dal Pos about lab *only* if your individual lab GTA has not responded to your lab inquiry within a reasonable amount of time.
- **Contact Graduate Teaching Assistant:**
 - If your question is about the lab, including grading, e-mail your GTA or see him/her during their office hours.

Office hours

- Office hours are only by appointment but Dr. King will try to accommodate appointment requests whenever they are made.

Emails

- **Email and Webcourses Messages are the only acceptable method of routine communication.**
- *Only* e-mails from your UCF's Knightmail account or messages through Webcourses will receive replies, without exception.
 - Do NOT leave phone messages on office phones as they will not be returned.
 - Do NOT leave phone messages in the Biology Department Office.
- All attempts will be made to answer emails within 48 hours. If you do not receive a response after 48 hours, please re-send. We experience a very high volume of emails and occasionally some will slip through unread.
- Emails must be written in a professional manner with proper grammar.
- State in the subject line a brief description of the inquiry (e.g. Question about Exam 2 content).
- State that you are a **Biology 2 student** and **sign off your email with your full name and UCF ID# or NID**. Emails that do not include this information will NOT be answered.
- **Redundant e-mails:** We will NOT reply to messages requesting information that is available on this syllabus, has been posted as an announcement in Webcourses or made during class or that can be resolved by common sense and/or using standard public or UCF information services.
- Keep in mind, Florida has a very broad open records law (F.S. 119). Emails between faculty and students may be subject to public disclosure.

Webcourses Announcements

- Check Webcourses' [Announcements](#) regularly and/or adjust your Webcourses' settings to allow notification emails of Webcourses' Announcements. We will try not to overload you with unnecessary messages. Knowing the important information released in these announcements will be your own responsibility.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Given terms and facts pertaining to evolution, biodiversity, physiology, and ecology, students will be able to classify them correctly.
- Given biological examples, students will be able to correctly differentiate how they relate to evolutionary concepts and theories.
- Given phylogenetic relationships, students will be able to correctly interpret the level of organisms' relatedness.
- Given organismal features, students will be able to correctly reconstruct phylogenetic classifications.
- Given real biological observations, students will be able to correctly implement the concepts of evolution and biodiversity.
- Given the descriptive characteristics of animals, students will be able to correctly identify distinguishing features of animals in general as well as key features of major animal divisions from simple invertebrates through advanced vertebrates.
- Given structural and physiological descriptions, students will gain a basic understanding of the function of animal body systems and how they work together in a complex animal.
- Given the characteristics of a given ecosystem, students will be able to make connections between biotic and abiotic factors and understand how organisms are linked to their environment as well as each other through trophic level interactions.

Course Activities

Academic Activity: especially important for financial aid students!

- Faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course for proper distribution of financial aid to those students that receive it.
- To document that you began this course, complete the Academic Activity Assignment by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.
- The Academic Activity Assignment for this course is a short [Syllabus Quiz](#) that can be accessed through Webcourses under the Quiz section.
- The score you receive on this syllabus quiz will NOT affect your course grade but read the syllabus and try your best to answer the questions.

Weekly Post-Lecture Quizzes

- There will be weekly post-lecture quizzes given through Webcourses, one per lecture.
- Each quiz will consist of 10 questions based on lecture content. These are open book, open note, but you only get one attempt over an hour to complete them.
- These quizzes are intended to help you learn along the way without overwhelming you with too much information for any one assessment. The quizzes are open-book but you only have **ONE (1)** attempt to take the quiz.
- Quizzes will be available to students for one week, opening at **8:00AM on Mondays** and closing at **11:59PM on Sundays**.
- **Important: There are NO makeups or excused absences for missed quizzes** (unless a student can provide documentation affecting them longer than 1 week, e.g. extended hospitalization, sequestered jury duty, etc. that prevented computer access).
- If you miss taking a quiz, you will receive a zero (0) for that quiz's grade. Therefore, do NOT wait until the last minute to take the quiz.
- Technical or internet difficulties will NOT be accepted as an excuse for missing quizzes, except as described above.
- Students are responsible for knowing the quiz due dates which can be found on Webcourses.
- The quizzes are the sole source of grades for the class so missing quizzes will negatively impact your grade. There are no extra credit points available in this course.
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Make-up Exams and Assignments

Per university policy, you are allowed to submit make-up work (or an equivalent, alternate assignment) for authorized university-sponsored activities, religious observances, or legal obligations (such as jury duty). If this participation conflicts with your course assignments, we will offer a reasonable opportunity for you to complete missed assignments and/or exams. The make-up assignment and grading scale will be equivalent to the missed assignment and its grading scale. In the case of an authorized university activity, it is your responsibility to show us a signed copy of the Program Verification Form for which you will be absent, prior to the class

in which the absence occurs. In any of these cases, please contact us ahead of time to notify us of upcoming needs.

In practice, this means the following:

- For known conflicts ahead of time, you must contact the instructor to arrange for a makeup prior to quizzes or questions being due.
- For emergencies, please try your best to email the instructor **within 24 hours** of the quiz or question date and provide written documentation as soon as possible.
- Valid excuses must be from an appropriate authority (doctor, police, judge, UCF sporting event, military supervisor, etc.) and on letterhead with original signature and date.
- Excuses from relatives (including relatives who are doctors, dentists, attorneys, etc.) are NOT accepted.
- **Important: Job or other work-related absences will NOT be considered a valid excuse for missing questions or a quiz during the week-long period that they are available.**
- The absence must have been caused by a valid emergency or circumstance as determined by the instructors including but not limited to: major illness, serious family emergency, jury duty, military obligation, observance of a religious holiday, etc. in order to warrant a makeup.
- If approved, makeups will be scheduled within one week of the exam date.
 - Makeup exams will be given by Dr. King via Webcourses.
- Undocumented or unapproved absences will NOT be considered for a makeup. Students will receive a score of zero for an unexcused missed quiz or question set.

Assessment and Grading Procedures

- You will receive one final course grade for BSC 2011C that combines your lecture and laboratory grades at the end of the semester.
- At the end of the semester, your score for each of the components below will be added up and converted to a final course percentage.

Activity	Percentage of Grade

Weekly Quizzes	75%
Laboratory Attendance and Participation	25%
Total	100%

- Your final course grade will be awarded using the following scale:

Letter Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or below

- Biology majors:** A grade of “C” or higher is required to advance in your Biology coursework. For other majors, please check with your major’s department for more information.
- There will be NO automatic additional curving of grades and no “extra credit” or “bonus” points awarded.
- Final semester grades will NOT be rounded up. (e.g. An 89.9% will be a “B”). This is a definitive cut off and NO grades will be altered unless there is a documented error in the grade calculation that would change a student’s course letter grade.
- Students are responsible for keeping track of their own grades and identifying issues within 2 weeks of any posted grade.
 - Grades will be posted in Webcourses but are NOT to be considered official grades.
 - No grades will be given over the phone or by email according to Federal law (FERPA regulations).
- Withdrawal Deadline: Friday, June 11, 2021**
 - Please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for detailed information about the implications of the withdrawal date.
 - Students must initiate withdrawal themselves. Instructors will NOT automatically withdraw any student from the course. Late and Medical Withdrawals and Incompletes are granted for only very compelling and documented reasons.
- Grade Forgiveness Deadline: Saturday, June 26, 2021**

- If you are re-taking this course, you must apply through MyUCF for grade forgiveness (it will NOT be automatically granted). Please, refer to the Student Handbook for additional information about Grade Forgiveness.

Course Schedule

The tentative course schedule is subject to change and can be found here: [BSC 2011 Summer 2021 Course Schedule.pdf](#)

University Services and Resources

Academic Help: Student Academic Resource Center (SARC)

- **Supplemental Instruction (SI)** sessions are available for this course through the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC).
- For more information on services provided by SARC, please visit their website at:
 - <https://sarc.sdes.ucf.edu/>
 - SARC is located in Room 117 in Trevor Colbourn Hall.
- **The instructors and the graduate teaching assistants are always available to answer your content questions.**
- **Please ask for help if you need it and do not wait until it is too late!**

Other Academic Services and Resources

A list of available academic support and learning services is available at [UCF Student Services](#). Click on "Academic Support and Learning Services" on the right-hand side to filter.

Non-Academic Services and Resources

A list of non-academic support and services is also available at [UCF Student Services](#). Click on "Support" on the right-hand side to filter.

Policy Statements

Conduct

- All students enrolled in this course agree to abide by the UCF Golden Rule
- Abusive/Offensive behavior will not be tolerated in discussion forums, during office hours, or any and all online interactions. Abusive/Offensive language in email communications will not be tolerated either. Instructors, teaching assistants and fellow students all need to be treated with respect.
 - This is an open, tolerant, judgement-free learning environment.

Academic Integrity

Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. We will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. In other words: don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. As your instructors, we will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask us to change (or expect us to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Students should familiarize themselves with [UCF's Rules of Conduct](#). According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

- *Unauthorized assistance*: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
- *Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means*: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
- *Commercial Use of Academic Material*: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, online assignments, study guides, handouts, etc.
- *Falsifying or misrepresenting* the student's own academic work.
- *Plagiarism*: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.

- *Multiple Submissions*: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.
- *Helping another violate* academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult [The Center for Academic Integrity](#).

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see “[Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices](#)”.

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Students should also familiarize themselves with the procedures for academic misconduct in UCF’s student handbook, [The Golden Rule](#). UCF faculty members have a responsibility for students’ education and the value of a UCF degree, and so seek to prevent unethical behavior and when necessary respond to academic misconduct. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, suspension or expulsion from the university, and/or a "Z Designation" on a student’s official transcript indicating academic dishonesty, where the final grade for this course will be preceded by the letter Z. For more information about the Z Designation, see <http://goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/zgrade>.

Course Accessibility Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with [Student Accessibility Services](#) (Ferrell Commons 185, sas@ucf.edu, phone (407) 823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

Deployed Active Duty Military Students

If you are a deployed active duty military student and feel that you may need a special accommodation due to that unique status, please contact your instructor to discuss your circumstances.

Copyright

This course may contain copyright-protected materials such as audio or video clips, images, text materials, etc. These items are being used with regard to the Fair Use doctrine in order to enhance the learning environment. Please do not copy, duplicate, download or distribute these items. The use of these materials is strictly reserved for this online classroom environment and your use only. All copyright materials are credited to the copyright holder.

Third-Party Accessibility and Privacy Statements

- OpenStax Biology's accessibility statement can be found [here](#).
- OpenStax Biology's privacy policy can be found [here](#).

Disclaimer

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructors.