

******Note that this is cut/paste from the lecture syllabus tool in Webcourses. Formatting remains in Webcourses format; links are not active. ******

BSC 2010: General Biology

OM04: 9 - 10:20 am in CB2, 201

Department of Biology, College of Sciences

4 credit hours

Instructor Information

- Instructor: K. Michele Yeargain
 - Office: Bio 201C
 - Office Hours:
 - Tuesday/Thursday: 8:30 - 9 am outside CB2, 201
 - Tuesday/Thursday 12 - 1 pm outside CB2, 201
 - Tuesday/Thursday 4:30 - 5 pm, via Zoom
 - [https://ucf.zoom.us/j/99873724246?pwd=dGVsY3F3eDEyRm1zREdsWEJrVOI5UT09Links to an external site.](https://ucf.zoom.us/j/99873724246?pwd=dGVsY3F3eDEyRm1zREdsWEJrVOI5UT09Links%20to%20an%20external%20site.)
- Meeting ID: 998 7372 4246
Passcode: 688382
- And by appointment

Contact Information

- Email is the preferred method of communication
 - All emails will receive a response within 24-48 hours, excluding weekends
- Email must include the following information
 - Salutation
 - Your name
 - Your UCF ID
 - Include that you are enrolled in Biology I and specifically in my course
 - I work with 2500-3000 students each semester, so it is very important that you tell me that you are a student enrolled in my Biology I course
- UCF policy requires students to use KnightsMail when contacting faculty
 - Email sent from other email addresses will not receive a response

Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leader

- Jacob Channer

Course Tutor

- Madison Melwani

Course Information

- Term: Spring 2024
- Course Number & Section: BSC2010.0M04
- Course Name: General Biology
- Credit Hours: 4 credit hours
- Course Modality: M Lecture will be held in-person in CB2, 201. Laboratories will be held virtually during your scheduled laboratory time. If deemed necessary by UCF or other guiding agency, the course could pivot to entirely remote delivery.

Enrollment Requirements

- Must have PC or Mac laptop or desktop computer. Tablets and smart phones cannot access all components of this online course
- Must have fast, broadband internet access
 - Minimum speed/bandwidth is 10 Mb/second
 - WiFi is not recommended due to intermittent instability
 - Ethernet cable connection is strongly advised
- Must use Windows or Mac Operating System (Linux and similar OS are incompatible)
- Must download Respondus Lockdown browser ([Respondus - UCF](#))
- There are no exceptions to the above requirements
 - Failure to have any of these requirements will result in a failing (F) grade in this course
- Course Prerequisites (if applicable): High School Biology or equivalent
- Course Co-requisites (if applicable): None

Course Description

This course covers the chemical and cellular basis of life, cellular structure and function, Mendelian genetics, and gene expression. Students will also learn scientific inquiry and processes. The laboratory portion of this course gives students an opportunity to practice the concepts taught in lecture.

Course Materials and Resources

Required Materials/Resources

- You are required to purchase Univirtual Biology I (which includes access to our virtual labs)
 - **This access is required for all students enrolled in this course**
 - You can purchase this access in two ways:
 - Directly from the Univirtual website ([Create Account - UniVirtualLinks to an external site.](#)) This is the cheapest option for you!
 - From the UCF Bookstore. This is the more more costly option.
- **Computer/Internet connection**
 - **You are responsible for your computer/ internet connection**
 - **Lack of internet connection must be documented by your internet provider**
- Insufficient internet connection may result in an inability to connect to Webcourses and/or our virtual campus.

- Webcourses will be used for class related material and communication including but not limited to:
 - Lecture and Laboratory Syllabi
 - Chapter Modules
 - PowerPoints of lecture
 - Exam review material
 - Chapter Post-Quizzes
 - Announcements
 - To ensure that you receive important announcements, you are required to have your announcements setting turned on. **You are responsible for information sent to students via Webcourses Announcements.**
 - Grades for all course components

Student Learning Outcomes

- Understand introductory biological vocabulary and principles
- Understand and apply the Scientific Method
- Master introductory biological concepts required for acquisition of advanced concepts required in upper division biology courses
- Understand how biology is related to everyday life
- Learn critical thinking skills necessary for scientific inquiry

Course Activities

- Material widgets
- Active Learning
- Chapter Post-Quizzes
- 5 Lecture exams
- Final Exam
- Laboratory
- Students should plan to spend at least **3 hours per week**, outside of lecture, studying lecture notes, reading chapter material and learning concepts
- Students will spend approximately **2 hours per week** in the laboratory portion of this course
- Extra credit opportunities will be provided at the discretion of the instructor

Attendance Verification for Financial Aid Students

- Faculty are required to document student attendance/participation in this course so that financial aid monies are disbursed appropriately and in a timely manner.
- To document your attendance and participation in this course you are required to complete the [Attendance Activity Quiz](#) in Webcourses no later than Friday, January 13th
 - Failure to complete this quiz will result in the delay of your financial aid funds

Course Activity Details

Lecture Exams Details (60% of semester grade)

- Six multiple choice exams will be given throughout the semester

- The lowest scoring exam of Exams 1-5 will be dropped
- Final Exam (Exam 6) cannot be dropped
- The four highest scoring exams (1-5) and Exam 6 (Final Exam) are worth 12% each (for a total of 60%)
- Exams will be delivered online, via Webcourses Quizzes, on the scheduled exam date from 9:00 am - 10:20 am
 - There are no exceptions to this policy.
 - **Work is not an acceptable reason to miss an exam.** The dates of the exams are listed below, you must arrange your work schedule to accommodate exams
- Exams are scheduled on the following dates and during your scheduled lecture time:
 - - Exam 1: Thursday, January 25
 - Exam 2: Tuesday, February 13
 - Exam 3: Thursday, February 29
 - Exam 4: Tuesday, March 26
 - Exam 5: Tuesday, April 9
 - Final Exam (Exam 6): Thursday, April 25, 7 - 9:50 am (based on UCF Final Exam Schedule)
- - Exam content is based on material covered in the Lecture PowerPoints Chapter Post-Quizzes, and the Active Learning activities.
- Exam Protocol
 - Exams will be online within Webcourses
 - Online exams will be 30 questions and timed with a **40 minute time limit**
 - Exams will start promptly at 9:00 am and close at 10:20 am
 - Any students logging in late to the exam must complete the exam in the time remaining
 - Students who miss their exam time for unexcused reasons are not guaranteed a make-up opportunity. If such an opportunity is provided, the exam score will be penalized 15%. Work is not an excused reason for missing an exam.
 - The following are prohibited during all exams:
 - Calculators
 - Cell phones
 - Headphones, ear buds, other listening devices
 - Smart watches
 - Computer/Tablets/Any electronic device
 - Textbook and notes
 - Cheating is obviously not permitted. Cheating includes using any of the above mentioned tools, using another person, using GroupMe, Chegg, etc. This is discussed in greater detail in the section titled "Course Sanctions."
 - **Lockdown Browser is required for all exams ([Respondus - UCF](#))**
 - You are required to test your Lockdown Browser, no later than 8:30 am on the day of each exam date, by taking the [Lockdown Browser Practice Quiz](#)
 - If you do not take the practice quiz and you have problems with Lockdown Browser, you are responsible for any negative impact on your exam grade
 - Quiz Audit will be used for all exams

- Camera monitoring will not be used

Laboratory Grade Details (22% of semester grade)

- The laboratory portion of this course is synchronous during your scheduled laboratory time
- The laboratory portion of this course is worth 22% of your overall semester grade
- Review the [Laboratory Syllabus Download Laboratory Syllabus](#) for grading details
- **Failure to Launch Policy: If you have not created your laboratory account by 11:59 pm on Friday, February 15 and/or if you fail to complete six or more laboratory modules, you will receive a zero (0) grade for the entire laboratory portion of this course!!!**

Materia Widgets (5% of semester grade)

- Materia widgets will be assigned as pre-lecture work for each chapter
- Different chapters will have a different number of Materia Practice assignments (i.e, some chapters have only 1 while other chapters have 3-4)
- You will have two attempts per Materia Widgets, the highest grade will count towards your semester grade
- Materia Widgets can only be accessed through Chapter modules
- Assignments open and close according to the schedule on Webcourses
 - All assignments close at 11:59 pm on the due date
- Assignments must be completed during the open period
 - Assignments will not be reopened
 - Late assignments will not receive a grade
- Three Materia Practice assignments will be dropped
 - There will be no excused absences for Materia Practice
 - Absences extending longer than the open period for an assignment will be considered on a case-by-case basis with approved documentation provided within 48 hours of the assignment due date
- Grade concerns must be remedied within two weeks of scores being posted on Webcourses
 - Failure to remedy concerns within this time period will in result in forfeiture of grade correction

Chapter Post-Quizzes (7% of semester grade)

- One Post-Quiz will be assigned per chapter (excluding Chapter 1)
- Post-Quizzes are based on chapter reading and lecture material
- The lowest scoring Post-Quiz assignment will be dropped
- Post-Quizzes open and close according to the schedule on Webcourses
 - They will open at 12:01 am on the opening date
 - They will close at 11:59 pm on the due date (see Webcourses schedule for details)
- Each Post-Quiz has a time limit of 30 minutes
- Post-Quizzes must be completed during the open dates/times
 - They will not be reopened
 - Due to scheduled and unscheduled Webcourses maintenance, as well as unplanned extenuating circumstances, you are strongly encouraged to not wait until the very last minute to complete an assignment
- There are no excused absences from Post-Quizzes

- Absences extending longer than the opening date for an assignment will be considered on a case-by-case basis and with approved documentation provided within one week of the closing date of the assignment

Active Learning (6% of semester grade)

- Active Learning assignments will be discussed during lecture on the scheduled dates. An associated graded quiz will be given via Webcourses quizzes
 - Students who want assistance with these Active Learning activities should plan to attend lecture.
- Active Learning quizzes have a time limit of 50 minutes and are asynchronous but must be completed between 12:01 am - 11:59 pm as scheduled in the [Spring 2024 Course Schedule](#)
- The lowest scoring Active Learning grade will be dropped.

Grade concerns must be addressed within one week of the score being posted on Webcourses

Activity Submissions

All course assignments and exams will be accessed through Webcourses; each assignment must be completed by the posted due date.

Attendance/Participation

Although highly encouraged, attendance is not mandatory for this course. In other words, the more you come to lecture, the better you will understand the concepts of the course but, there will be no participation grades based on lecture attendance (i.e., no iClickers, in-lecture quizzes, attendance, etc.)

Make-up Exams and Assignments

There are no excused absences for Materia widgets or Chapter Post-Quizzes. The lowest three (3) Materia widgets, and the lowest one (1) Chapter Post-Quizzes will be dropped to account for absences, technical difficulties, etc. Materia widgets and Chapter Post-Quizzes are open for at least one week and are completed online, for this reason there is no need for an absence policy.

If an exam is missed due to an official, documented, University-approved absence, a make-up exam will be permitted within three days of the missed exam date.

- Excused absences include but are not limited to: illness, jury duty, court dates, severe family emergencies, UCF Athletics program travel, military service, etc.
 - **Documentation for excused absences must be submitted within 24 hours** of the exam date and must be from an official authority (doctor, judge, etc.)
 - Absences extending longer than 24 hours past the exam date must be submitted within 24 hours of the date on the excuse documentation
 - Excuses/Documentation will not be accepted after this time
 - Excuses will not be accepted from family members, even if they are doctors, nurses, police officers, etc.
- **Work is not considered an excused reason for missing an exam.** All exam dates are available before the start of the semester; students must make arrangements in their work schedule to accommodate all exams.
- Unexcused absences will result in a zero grade for the missed exam

- If the unexcused absence occurs during exams 1-5, that grade will be dropped as the lowest scoring exam
 - Any additional zero exam grades due to unexcused absences will count towards the final semester grade
- Known conflicts with exam dates must be discussed with the instructor no less than one week prior to the exam date. Documentation must also be provided no less than one week prior to the exam date.
 - Known conflicts include, but are not limited to: military duty, UCF Athletic travel, court date, etc.
- Unexpected last minutes absences on the day of an exam, you must contact the instructor within 24 hours of the exam. Documentation must be provided within 24 hours of the exam date (or within 24 hours of the date on the excuse documentation).
- If approved, make-up exams must be scheduled and completed within one week of the missed exam date.
 - If you miss your scheduled make-up exam you will receive a zero for the exam.

Exam Review

- Due to the online exam format, exam review of each question/answer will not be permitted. Students can attend office hours to go over the exam with Professor Yeargain. Each exam must be reviewed prior to the next exam (i.e., Exam 1 must be reviewed prior to Exam 2, etc.), after which the exam cannot be reviewed.

Important Grade Information

- Withdrawal for Spring 2024 is **Friday, March 29, at 11:59 pm.**
 - Students must initiate this withdrawal process
 - Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog or contact the Registrar for detailed information
- Grade Forgiveness deadline for Spring 2024 is **Monday, April 22, at 11:59 pm**
 - Grade Forgiveness is not automatically granted for repeating students through myUCF
- In compliance with FERPA, no grades will be given via email or phone
 - Students wishing to discuss their grades must do so in person and present their UCF ID card
 - Grades will not be discussed with any individual (even parents) other than the student
- For Biology majors, a grade of "C" or higher is required to matriculate to the next Department of Biology course
 - Non-majors must check with their individual departments for requirements

Academic Assistance

- The instructor is available during office hours and by appointment to answer your questions about the content of this course
- Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction (SI) sessions are available through the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC).

- SI meeting times and locations will be announced in lecture and posted in Webcourses
- If you need help with content, are not performing well on exams, etc., please do not wait until the day before the final exam to seek help! If you need help, ask for it – from the beginning of the semester!

Assessment and Grading Procedures

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Active Learning	6%
Materia Widgets	5%
Chapter Post-Quizzes	7%
Four highest scoring exams 1-5 (12% each)	48%
Final Exam (Exam 6)	12%
Laboratory	22%
Total	100%

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

Semester grades will be based on the grading scheme above. Overall semester grades will NOT be rounded. In other words, a 79.99 is a “C.” With so many students in this course, we strive for consistency and fairness. For this reason, there will be no additional assignments or end-of-semester extra credit given. There will be no “retakes” on any exam, assignment, or laboratory exercise.

Course Schedule

[Spring 2024 Course Schedule](#)

Policy Statements

Academic Integrity

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, homework, 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](#). [Links to an external site.](#)

For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see "[Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices](#)". [Links to an external site.](#)"

Responses to Academic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, or Cheating

Classroom Conduct

- All students enrolled in this course agree to abide by the UCF Golden Rule
 - As this is an M course, refer specifically to the online conduct portions as they relate to our virtual laboratory and online lecture content
- Arrive on time and stay for the entire class
 - If you must arrive late or leave early, sit towards the rear of the room
- No talking during the lecture
- Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during lecture exams
- Use of cell phones and electronic devices during regular lectures is limited to note-taking and Learning Catalytics responses only.
 - Computers will be banned from the lecture hall if students do not abide by this rule

- Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated; offenders will be removed from the lecture hall.
- Academic Dishonesty devalues this course, the Department of Biology, and the prestige of your UCF degree and, as such, will not be tolerated.
 - This includes but is not limited to: cheating on any coursework, copying exams, posting questions/answers in any public or private forum, false impersonation of students, etc.
- Abusive/Offensive behavior will not be tolerated in lecture (to the instructor or the lecture assistant) or on the virtual laboratory campus (to the instructor, the Teaching Assistants (TAs) or CNDG staff)
 - This is an open, tolerant, judgement-free learning environment
 - There are NO exceptions!
- All course material is copyrighted to Ms. Michele Yeargain, and CNDG/Univirtual 2023

Course Sanctions

- Cheating during an exam
 - Any use of book, notes, computer, phone, tablet, or any other electronic device during an exam constitutes cheating
 - Consulting with fellow classmates, friends, or any other person during an exam constitutes cheating
 - First offense will result in a zero grade on the exam
 - Second offense will result in a zero grade on the exam, and referral to Department of Biology Conduct Committee and/or UCF Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities
- If a report of academic misconduct is filed, course sanctions could include:
 - Reduction in points for the exam/assignment
 - Zero grade on the exam/assignment
 - Letter grade of "F" for the course

University Sanctions

- Academic Misconduct and Disruptive Conduct submitted to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities may impact student status at UCF.
 - Use or display of any electronic device during an exam. Calculators are permitted.
 - Any form of written information accessible by or in possession of a student during an exam
 - Posting quiz/exam/assignment topics/questions/answers to any public/private forum
 - Falsification of excuse documentation
 - Disruptive/Abusive conduct
 - Aggressive behavior, stalking, harassment, bullying, etc.
 - Refusal to comply with course syllabus
 - "F" letter grade for the course

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.

Campus Safety Statement

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise in our class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of the surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Please make a note of the guide's physical location and consider reviewing the online version at http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html.
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, we may need to access a first aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those items are located in this building, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html> (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to my.ucf.edu and logging in. Click on "Student Self Service" located on the left side of the screen in the tool bar, scroll down to the blue "Personal Information" heading on your Student Center screen, click on "UCF Alert," fill out the information, including your e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click "Apply" to save the changes, and then click "OK."
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this video. [You CAN Survive an Active Shooter](#) [Links to an external site.](#)



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 Software and FERPA

During this course you might have the opportunity to use public online services and/or software applications sometimes called third-party software such as a blog or wiki. While some of these could be required assignments, you need not make any personally identifying information on a public site. Do not post or provide any private information about yourself or your classmates. Where appropriate you may use a pseudonym or nickname. Some written assignments posted publicly may require personal reflection/comments, but the assignments will not require you to disclose any personally identity-sensitive information. If you have any concerns about this, please contact your instructor.