Biology 105-001 Human Biology Spring 2015

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BIO 105- 001
Human Biology
Spring 2015 Syllabus

(Subject to change at the instructor’s discretion)

Instructor:  Rosetta Dalton
Office:  L-214
Student Office hours:  M/T/W 6-6:50 p.m.; TH  6-7:50 p.m.
Email:  rdalton@parkland.edu
Phone Number:  351-2292

COURSE INFORMATION


Cobra Learning:  In order to access the course materials you will need to use the Cobra Learning System.  Please access this system through my.parkland.edu.

Course Description:  This course is designed to provide non-science majors with the fundamental principles of human biology in the context of current social issues.  An emphasis will be placed on the human body and its interconnectedness to health, disease, growth, development, genetics, and evolution, as they relate to individuals and society.

General Education Objectives covered in Bio. 105:  Effective writing, reading, and listening; ability to compute and to think and express yourself in quantitative terms; critical thinking and analysis; use of technology to access and retrieve information; understanding of worldwide political and social issues; demonstration of ethical core values; and awareness and understanding of diversity and its importance in culture, ideas, perspectives, religion, gender and sexual orientation
Homework/assignment policy: No late work will be accepted unless a student has made a prior arrangement with the instructor and is excused. In order to be excused, the student must contact the instructor on or before the day an assignment and/or quiz is due. Cheating will result in a grade of “F” for this course. Academic Honesty: See www.parkland.edu/studentpolicy/honesty

Modules and Objectives

The material of the course is divided into 8 units called modules. Each module contains objectives, sources where you can find information to help you answer the objectives, and the reading assignments. After you have finished each module, you will be required to take a multiple choice/matching quiz over that module. The quizzes will be taken in the Testing Center located in the L-161. Test Center Rules, policy and hours of operation are located on Cobra Learning in the “Getting Started” folder. You are responsible for knowing these rules.

The objectives are very important. They tell you exactly what it is you need to know for the quiz. You will be tested only over the objectives, so use them as a study guide. They should be the first thing you look at when you start a module...yes, even before you start to read the text. The textbooks will have a lot of information that, although useful in helping you understand the topics, will not always be the material over which you will be tested. The objectives help you sort out those parts of the text on which you need to concentrate.

Each module is designed to be completed in approximately two weeks. Due dates for the quizzes will be found in the syllabus. The syllabus may also be found on Cobra Learning.

Module Power Point Presentations

Each module will have a power point presentation. The power point presentation will cover information from the text book as well as some additional information not in your text. The power point presentation should not be a substitute for the textbook. Your textbook is very well written and should be read and studied. Student versions of the Module Power Point Presentations can be found in Cobra too. I suggest that you print them out and bring them to class.

Instructor Points/Work Ethic Grade: This class is no different than a job. You are expected to be on time and put forth your best effort. If you must miss a class/lab/assignment for any reason, you
are expected to notify your instructor **on or before** the day you miss. At the end of the semester, your instructor will make a subjective evaluation of your work ethic, which will include your attendance, participation, promptness, and overall contribution to the classroom environment.

**Attendance.** On-time attendance and regular participation using the iClicker is required to maintain a student’s course grade and/or earn participation points. If a student is late more than twice, it will be marked as an absence. If a student falls asleep or is repeatedly texting, they are not mentally present and may be counted as absent. If you are counted as absent, you forfeit all instructor points that are earned that day, regardless of whether or not you participated. Students are also expected to check their Parkland E-mail and Cobra a minimum of every Monday.

**Participation includes Instructor Points.** Instructor points are earned by participating in classroom activities including using the iclickers and/or doing pre-class homework. You must be in class to earn these points. There are **no make-ups** for instructor points. You are required to bring your iclicker to class every day. You will use your iclcker to answer questions and instructor points will be awarded based on your answers to these questions. **If you do not bring your iclicker to class, you will not be able to earn these points.** You must be in class to earn these points. There are **no make-ups** for instructor points.

**Bi-weekly Discussion Questions:**

Within Cobra is a conferencing tool that I will use to post questions and/or discussion topics. The questions will be posted on Sunday, one week before they are due, no later than 11:55 p.m. and you will have until the following Sunday to post your responses.

You will receive a maximum of 10 points for each discussion. This includes 5 pts. for your initial posting and up to an additional 5 pts. for responding or commenting on other classmates’ responses or comments. Therefore, for each discussion you should post a **minimum of two times.** (I highly recommend that you respond to others numerous times for full credit. Your points will add up.) **However, there is one catch.** There are **due dates** associated with your responses.
Again, the questions/discussion topic will be posted on Sunday. All students are expected to make their initial response by Wednesday to potentially get full credit for that posting (5 points). If you make your initial posting after Wednesday, the most you can earn is 2 out of 5 points for that initial posting. However, even if you do not make the Wednesday deadline for the initial posting, you will still have until the following Sunday to respond to others and potentially earn the second 5 points. I highly recommend that you stay involved in the discussion and respond to others numerous times. Your points will add up and the points you earn will be significant.

I'm not using the points to rule on what is a "right" answer, but more to encourage a response. However, an "it's obvious you haven't thought about this much" or a very brief answer will result in fewer than the 10 points being given. It's subjective, but I think you will see that I'm fair and you have nothing to worry about if you make the effort.

The purpose of the bi-weekly questions is to provide an avenue for discussion and exchange of ideas outside the classroom. If we do this right, a lot of learning will take place.

Remember, you must answer all of the questions posted and respond at least once (However, I recommend that you respond to others numerous times for full credit.) to someone else's response by the due dates. I hope the questions and responses will be thought provoking enough that you will respond more than once. I actually highly encourage you respond more than once. The points add up.

**QUIZZES**

After you have finished each module, you will be expected to take a quiz. The quiz will be taken in the Testing Center in L-161. Here is some information about the quizzes.

1. The quizzes are worth anywhere from 15-20 points and each question is worth 1 point.

2. Each quiz will have a "window of opportunity" during which it can be taken. The "due dates" are posted in the syllabus. Exceptions may be granted by me for good reason. (See Homework/Assignment policy)
3. Most of the quizzes will take 20 minutes to take. Some might be longer depending on the content. However, in the Testing Center you will be able to take as much time as you need unless the Testing Center is closing.

4. You will be able to immediately see how well you did.

6. How will you be able to examine the quiz questions? You may go over the quizzes with me during my office hours. If my office hour times do not work for you, you can make an appointment with me.

Case Studies:

Case studies are stories designed to give you a chance to practice and think critically about the information presented in each module. Each case study is divided up into several parts, where you will have some reading material followed by some questions. The case studies will be online in cobra.

Special Topics Project:

Instead of a final exam, this course will include a special topics group project, where you will research a human biology topic that has social ramifications, design a power point presentation and do an oral presentation to the class. There will be more information concerning the special topics group project later in the course.

LABS:

The labs in this course are designed to support the lecture material. All lab materials will be provided. Lab handouts will be available on Cobra Learning, when appropriate. It is expected that you have read the lab materials prior to lab and that you print out the materials and bring them with you to class.

Tardiness/Missed Labs: If you are more than 10 minutes late to lab, you will have points deducted from your lab. There may be times, if you are late to lab, you will not be able to do the lab because you have missed instructions given out at the beginning of the lab or you do not have enough time to finish the lab. On most occasions, labs cannot be made up. On the rare occasion, where making up a lab is possible, the missed lab can only be made up if the student has made prior arrangements with the instructor and is excused. In addition the
missed lab must be made up within five weekdays following the day the lab was missed. In order to be excused, the student must contact the instructor on or before the day an assignment/lab is due.

**Keeping Up**

I have no doubt that all of you can successfully complete Bio 105, *if you keep up!*

Here are a few tips that may help you keep on track:

1. **Develop a regular time each week for working on the course.** You would be going to lecture three hours a week. To those three hours, you should tack on a minimum of at least four more hours for doing assignments, reading the text, asking questions, etc.

2. **Avoid the tendency to cram.** This is no secret! It's better to break up your study time into smaller blocks rather than one giant cram session.

3. **Communicate with your Instructor** on a regular basis. Not only does this help you learn but it can help you keep up. I'm ready, willing, and able to work with you and help you learn, but you have to ask the questions and let me know what you don't understand.

**WITHDRAWALS**

I am required by Parkland to assess your attendance. After one week of class, if you have (1) attended class, (2) answered the first question I have posted on the cobra discussion board, and (3) responded to an answer posted by someone else in the class, I will consider you a part of the class.

If you have not completed these three things *and have not contacted me to explain why*, I will be forced to withdraw you from the class.

Again, at midterm, I will be assigning midterm grades. The same rules apply. If you are not making satisfactory progress toward completion of the course *and have not contacted me to explain why*, I will be forced to withdraw you from class.
After midterm I will not be able to withdraw any student from the class

If you need to withdraw from the class, the ultimate responsibility is yours. You cannot assume that I will drop you at midterm. Make sure you know the final date for withdrawal. If you leave the class after midterm and fail to officially withdraw you will be given an “F”.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

NOTE: “If you feel you have a disability which may require an accommodation, e.g. an alternate testing environment, use of assistive technology, or other classroom assistance, please contact:

Cathy Robinson
Director, Office of Disability Service
Room U-260
353-2082
crobinson@parkland.edu

Center for Academic Success

Provides a wide range of academic support services to enable you to learn well, grow as a student, succeed in your classes, and excel at what you do. These services include the following:

1. Tutoring and Learning Assistance: Make use of walk-in tutoring services provided by faculty, staff and trained peer tutors on a daily basis. Many students come to get help in reading, writing math (all levels) and study skills.

2. For-credit Instructional Modules and Supplemental Tutorials: Enroll in one-credit hour Tutorials to supplement classroom instruction in reading, writing, and math. Instructional Modules are also available to eligible students to complete certain coursework requirements.

3. Advising and Advocacy: Work with our team of advocates and academic advisor to plan a semester schedule, understand transfer requirements, or manage issues that stand in the way of school.

For more information, please contact:

Anita Taylor
D 120
403-4580

Sue Schreiber
D 120
351-2441

You may also email CAS at CenterForAcademicSuccess@parkland.edu
Core Values

We believe strongly in the Core Values espoused by Parkland College: Honesty and Integrity, Fairness and Just Treatment, Responsibility, Multiculturalism, Education, and Public Trust. Essentially, these values set guidelines for how we should treat you and how you should treat each other (and us). Failure to be respectful of one another or to maintain ethical behavior will not be tolerated.

SYLLABUS ADDENDUM: You are responsible for any additional information concerning Parkland’s Class Policies in the Syllabus Addendum uploaded in the cobra learning system.

 MODULES

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Dates Covered</th>
<th>Quiz due date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jan. 12-23</td>
<td>Tuesday 1/28</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Jan. 26-Feb. 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 2/10</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Feb. 9-20</td>
<td>Tuesday 2/24</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Feb. 23-Mar. 6</td>
<td>Tuesday 3/10</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Mar. 9-20</td>
<td>Tuesday 3/31</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Mar. 30-April 10</td>
<td>Tuesday 4/14</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>April 13-24</td>
<td>Tuesday 4/28</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>April 27-May 1st</td>
<td>Tuesday 5/5</td>
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Note: Each chapter has a summary, review questions, applied questions, cases and a list of resources for more information at the end of the chapter. Answers to the questions are in the back of the book. These can be most helpful. Also, the glossary at the end of each chapter should be used for learning new terminology.

Module and Quiz Schedule

Final Exam: Thursday May 14th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the lecture classroom. Special Topics group presentations will be presented at this time, instead of a final exam. Your participation and attendance is required.
| TOTAL REQUIREMENTS TO FINISH THE COURSE  
(points to be determined) |
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Module Quizzes</td>
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<td>Instructor points/work ethic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Topics Project</td>
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<td>Case Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Questions/Topics</td>
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<td>Labs</td>
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<th><strong>Total Possible Points</strong></th>
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<tr>
<th>GRADES WILL BE BASED ON TOTAL POINTS ACCUMULATED  (to be determined)</th>
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<td>A  =  90% or better</td>
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<td>B  =  80-89.9%</td>
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<td>C  =  70-79.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D  =  60-69.9%</td>
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<td>F  =  less than 60%</td>
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