BIOLOGY 111: General College Biology 1 General Information

Instructor: Tom Zapico E-mail: tom.zapico@rrcc.edu

Text: Required for this course:

- 1) Biology, Campbell and Reece, Ninth Edition
- 2) RRCC Biology 111 Lab Manuel

Supplies: Writing materials, calculator, stapler, flash drive, and recording device

Objectives: This course introduces the general principles relative to living things. The approach emphasizes biochemistry, but also includes molecular, cellular and genetic processes.

Specifically, through lectures/demonstrations, lab work and assigned reading students are expected to demonstrate on exams their understanding of the units listed below.

Topic 1: Scientific Method, Introducing Energy and Information (Chapters 1, 8 & 54)

Topic 2: Basic Chemistry (Chapters 2 & 3)

Topic 3: Organic Molecules (Chapters 4, 5 & 8)

Topic 4: The Cell, part I (Chapter 6)

Topic 5: The Cell, part II (Chapters 7 & 12)

Topic 6: Introducing Biological Energetics (Chapters 8, 9&10) *

Topic 7: Introducing DNA (Chapters 5, 16 & 17)

Topic 8: Introducing Genetics (Chapters 13-15)

Topic 9: Introducing Genetic Control/Biotechnology (Chapters

17&18)

Evaluation:

Lecture Exams: Exams will be made up of objective questions. There will be four exams during the semester. The last exam is worth 140 points but is **not** comprehensive. The other exams are worth 100 points each. If you miss any of the first three scheduled exams, you must take a make-up version of the exam (prior to the scheduled date of the next exam and when I am scheduled to be on campus) or a grade of zero (for that exam) will be recorded. A make-up exam will cover the same material but will consist primarily of essays, written definitions and descriptions, and diagrams. Consequently, a make-up exam is more detailed and time-consuming than a scheduled exam owing to the fact that the student will have had more time to prepare than his/her classmates. It is up to the student to contact me to make arrangements to take the make-up exam. The fourth exam cannot be taken after the last scheduled class session unless campus is closed for that session. Also note that you may not re-take or drop any exams, regardless of your score. You are responsible for any and all lecture material, handouts, and assignments that you miss the days you are absent. First, you must obtain notes (or

recordings) from a fellow student. *Then* feel free to ask me specific questions regarding the material.

Laboratory work: Biology is the study of life and living is an activity! We learn best when doing. Therefore, laboratory work is critical to our understanding of biology. Lab homework will be due one week following the actual lab work. Labs are worth 10 points each. Answers must be written in space provided in the lab manual (unless otherwise noted) and all labs must be stapled before they are turned in. Also, I need to be able to read what you write. If your work is too sloppy for me to read I won't try to read it. Hence, no credit will be given. Most labs require a pre-lab assignment (to be completed before the lab) which will be worth 3 of the 10 points. A fee of 2 points/class period will be assessed to late labs (unless you communicate with me prior to due date). If you are absent on the day a lab is due, email the lab to me as a scan or attachment. There will be two lab exams (practicals) in which you will demonstrate your abilities and understanding of lab skills. These may include use of the microscope, chemical testing, cell identification, etc. No make-up lab exams. In addition to weekly write-ups we will have one formal lab write-up. Lab work will comprise about 30% of your grade.

Problems: It may be the case that some individuals will experience personal setbacks during the semester. Please email me as soon as possible to let me know so we can work something out. Also, make sure you send me an email as that is how I communicate with students. Email should be used to communicate special circumstances regarding personal matters that interfere with the course as scheduled. I cannot answer questions about biology (the subject matter) via email. I will be happy to answer any and all *specific* questions regarding the course material during lab.

If an assignment is due on a day that you cannot make it to campus for whatever reason, such as illness or inclement weather, attach the assignment to an email as it will be due nonetheless. In case of class cancellation or campus closure, the assignment will be due at the next class meeting.

Some assignments need to be typed to be accepted and graded. Pay attention as to which ones require typing so as not to be tagged with a late fee or a zero. Other assignments need to be stapled (anything with multiple pages). Such assignments that are dog-eared, paper-clipped (and the like), or simply not stapled will not be graded and will be scored as a zero.

Extra Credit

After the semester is over, no extra credit assignments will be given to raise a student's grade. There will be plenty of opportunities for extra credit during the semester. If you decide to do all the extra credit assigned during the semester and you finish with a borderline grade, I will bump the grade up to the next highest letter grade (Example: 89%=B, but if you have completed all extra credit assignments on schedule I will bump that up to a 90% which is an A).

Grading Scale:

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

Grading Symbols (from student handbook)

A Distinguished achievement for superior work
B Better than acceptable achievement
C Acceptable achievement for advancement in the same or related

studies

D Less than acceptable achievement for advancement in the same or related studies (credit may not transfer or count toward some degrees or certificates)
F Failure to achieve or master the learning objectives of the course.

learning objectives of the course. A grade of F does not apply toward certificates or degrees.

AU Audit. If you want to take a course without earning credit, you can register to audit that course. You must pay full tuition and fees, and you will not receive the COF stipend for the course. You must declare your intention to audit no later than the course's tuition refund date. Once you have registered to audit a course, you cannot change your registration from auditing to earning credit for the course. The college will not award credit for any audited course.

AW Administrative Withdrawal. The grade of AW may be given at the discretion of the individual faculty

member.

W Withdrawal. Through Admissions, you have officially withdrawn from the course or the college by the approved date and time listed in the current semester's schedule.

I Incomplete. If you are not able to complete the learning objectives before the end of a course because of verifiable extenuating circumstances, the instructor may assign a grade of incomplete at his or her discretion. Before you are eligible to receive an I, you must have completed a minimum of 75% of the course work with a grade of C (or better). Before the end of the course, you are responsible for making arrangements with the instructor to sign an Incomplete Grade Contract. If you do not complete the course work by the agreed-upon deadline, the instructor will change the I to the letter grade stipulated in the contract.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance: Attendance in both lecture and lab is crucial to your success in this course. Attendance at the laboratory section in which you are enrolled is mandatory.

Missing more than four lab days will result in automatic failure of the course. Unless campus is closed, your attendance is expected. Promptness and Courtesy: Please show up to both lecture and lab on time. Repeated tardiness will result in loss of points and possible removal from the laboratory.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: There is a zero tolerance policy for any form of academic dishonesty in this course. Disciplinary action will be taken against any student found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism. The penalty for being dishonest in this way is far greater than simply getting a wrong answer. Those committing academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including failing the assignment, failing the course, and/or expulsion from the course

OTHER: Red Rocks Community College will provide accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. To request accommodations, contact the Office of Disability Services at your earliest convenience. The Office of Disability Services is located in the Learning Commons Room 1185. Please contact the office at 303.914.6733, V/TDD at 303.914.6737, or email at ODS@rrcc.edu if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT DATES:

or college.

Last day to drop and initiate a tuition refund: Last day to withdraw ("W" recorded, no refund):

*It is important that to understand the material from this topic you must have a high level of understanding of all previous material delivered in lecture. Consult Review Sheet 3 to understand the level to which you will be tested.

^{**}Be sure you consult with the financial aid office prior to withdrawing from the course.