INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL BIOLOGY – ZOOL 200
COURSE SYLLABUS – Spring 2012
Department of Biological Sciences
Western Illinois University
4.0 Semester Credit Hours
Prerequisites: None.

Professor
Dr. Matthew Bonnan, Ph.D.
Office: Waggoner 327
Office Hours: MW 2-4PM; Th 9-10AM; or by appointment; Office Telephone: (309) 298-2155
E-mail: MF-Bonnan@wiu.edu; Personal Webpage: http://www.wiu.edu/users/mfb100/
Course Webpage: WesternOnline to Registered Students (http://westernonline.wiu.edu/).
I prefer that you contact me via my WesternOnline e-mail. Only contact me on my regular e-mail in
emergencies.

“Don’t be shy. Come early and come often to my office hours. The best time to seek my help is now.
The worst time is at the end of the semester when it will be too late. Above all, participate actively in
your education.”

Locations and Times
Meeting Times: MWF 1:00-1:50 PM
Meeting Place: All lecture meetings are in WG 003.

Course Description
Lecture and lab emphasize basic principles in animal biology
including scientific inquiry, cell biology, genetics, ecology,
evolution, and diversity in animal anatomy and physiology.

Text & Lab Manual
321-55823-5. Your Text should come with MasteringBiology, an
on-line resource with a password.


Student Responsibilities
YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:
1. Reading and taking responsibility for all assignments, policies, and expectations presented in
this syllabus.
2. Reading all assigned text and laboratory assignments prior to class and lab meetings.
3. Being prepared for class and lab discussion, including assigned lab homework.
4. Being polite to other students and the professor by showing up on time for lecture and lab,
and by keeping cell phones, iPods, iPhones, and other electronic devices turned off during
class.
Having access to university computers for MasteringBiology, downloading lecture goals, course information and handouts, and taking the on-line exams.

6. All material covered during class meetings, including additional material not covered in your text or lab manual.

7. Taking exams on the days they are given.

8. Completing assignments by their due dates.


**Materials You Will Need For This Course**

1. Your textbook, MasteringBiology password and access, and lab manual.


**Attendance**

Attending lecture and lab in a course such as this is critical to your understanding of biological concepts. Furthermore, because this course will be highly participatory, you will learn the material and demonstrate your ability most effectively if you attend class.

**LECTURE**

I believe you are all adults and will treat you like adults. Although your attendance will be tracked, this is not high school, and you will not receive points simply for showing up. However, your performance in this course will be adversely affected if you do not show up regularly. Students with poor attendance always and without exception do very poorly in this course. I do not supply notes to students who missed class.

**LAB**

**READ THIS:** Laboratory attendance is mandatory. Any student with more than one (1) unexcused absence in lab will automatically receive a 0 for the lab portion of the course and an “F” for the course. Four (4) or more absences in any combination of authorized and unauthorized absences will result in a 0 for the lab portion of the course and an “F” for the course. Students MUST pass the laboratory portion of this course (i.e., 60% minimum score) to pass Zoology 200.

An excused absence requires proper documentation: if you are sick, provide us with a doctor’s note; if there is a family death, supply us with appropriate funeral documentation. Undocumented absences are unexcused.

**Spring Break Notice:** According to the university, Spring Break begins on Monday, March 12, 2012, and classes resume Monday, March 19, 2012. Exams or labs missed because you are leaving early or returning late for vacation purposes cannot be made up.

**Please Note:** When you registered for this course, you understood and agreed to attend the course at the time and days it met. I am not your personal secretary – it is up to you, not me, to ensure you can attend class and labs. It is important to recognize that this is not a distance course and you are expected to attend and participate.

**On-line Materials** – WesternOnline and MasteringBiology

Success in this course depends on how well you integrate the outside readings and MasteringBiology, and how you apply this knowledge in lecture and in lab.
**WesternOnline** ([http://westernonline.wiu.edu/](http://westernonline.wiu.edu/))
The exams, copies of the syllabus and calendar of readings, as well as any copies of handouts in this course will be available on-line via WesternOnline. You must become familiar with the WesternOnline site. Although Dr. Bonnan posts exams, etc., to WesternOnline, **he is not a WesternOnline programmer**. Therefore, if you have questions or problems regarding the functions of WesternOnline or how to register with the system, contact one of the Academic Computing Resource Centers on Campus. These are located in the student union and Stipes 126. Directions for accessing course material on WesternOnline are published at: [http://westernonline.wiu.edu/](http://westernonline.wiu.edu/)

It is not acceptable to remain ignorant of WesternOnline – you are required to use it and Dr. Bonnan will not tolerate excuses related to not being familiar with, or having problems with, WesternOnline.

MasteringBiology is a fantastic learning resource that you will benefit from immensely if you use it on a regular basis. You must register for the service using a password and information provided to you when you purchased the text with Mastering Biology. **If you did not purchase a text with MasteringBiology, it can be ordered on-line separately.** Please see the Mastering Biology website for details.

**How to read for this course:**
1. First, consult the syllabus to see the assigned readings for a given week.
2. Before you read the chapter, start with the Key Concepts and Chapter Review. This will help you tremendously in finding what is important for lecture and exams.
3. Next, read the chapter. **Even if you don’t understand everything, read it anyways.** That way, you know what questions to ask Dr. Bonnan to clarify in lecture.
4. Make liberal use of MasteringBiology – it will help you prepare for lecture, for exams, and will help you integrate the readings and lectures. **Students who use MasteringBiology do better on exams than those who don’t.**
5. After attending class for the day, consult the text and MasteringBiology to review material discussed in lecture.

**How To Study for this course:**
1. Each chapter in the textbook has Key Concepts – Dr. Bonnan draws a majority of his questions on the exams from these. Studying the Key Concepts material is a great idea.
2. What are you responsible for? **EVERYTHING in the assigned chapters UNLESS DIRECTLY SPECIFIED by Dr. Bonnan** – one of many good reasons to attend lecture!
3. Use all of the tools in MasteringBiology – take the quizzes, take the exams, listen to the MP3s, view the animations. You are only hurting yourself and your grade if you don’t take advantage of all that MasteringBiology has to offer.

A calendar that specifies the order of topics and chapter readings is available on WesternOnline – consult it often! **This calendar also details the schedule of online exams.**

**Academic Dishonesty**
At Western Illinois University, cheating is a violation of official university policy. **Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course.** Should you have any doubt as to what constitutes academic dishonesty (including plagiarism), please consult the Official University Policy ([http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php](http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php)). **Ignorance of university policies on academic**
dishonesty does not exempt a student from the penalties. Students will be held to Official University Policy in relation to these matters, and are responsible for understanding and following it. If the need for a grade appeal arises, we will follow university procedure: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php#rnthree. If the need for plagiarism-related discipline arises, the Department of Biological Sciences has a statement on what constitutes plagiarism in our courses (http://www.wiu.edu/biology/student/policies.php) and university procedure in these matters is followed (http://www.wiu.edu/policies/acintegrity.php).

**Penalties for Academic Dishonesty**
Copying another student’s exam or other course activities, or collaborating with one or more students to cheat on exams or other course activities will result in the following penalties:

First offense: zero for the exam or other graded activity.
Second offense: failure of the course and academic dishonesty related discipline.

**IMPORTANT:** Copying in part or in full any other student’s lab report from this year or previous years is considered plagiarism and academic dishonesty.

We expect that all material you hand in is the result of your own work. We have no objections whatsoever to you discussing course problems with other students; in fact, we believe that group analysis and problem-solving can be a powerful learning tool. However, you must individually prepare your laboratory assignments.

**Course Grading**
READ THIS – All students must read and complete an on-line questionnaire where they must check the box indicating that they agree to the syllabus policies – failure to do so will result in an incomplete grade until the box is checked.

**Lecture Examinations** 450 Points
All students will take three (2) lecture examinations worth 125 points each, and a semi-cumulative final exam worth 200 points (125 points from new material, 75 points from previous material throughout the semester). These exams will be given on WesternOnline. Each exam will consist of a combination of multiple-choice, diagram identification, and matching questions that are based on the reading assignments, podcasts, and material presented in class. This includes presented material not available in the book, lab manual, or on-line materials! It is every student’s responsibility to be prepared for these exams by attending lecture. It is also every student’s responsibility to find out what they missed during lectures for which they were absent.

The lowest of the first two exam scores will be dropped, and the highest of the first two exams will be multiplied by 2. Therefore, your score for the first two exams will correspond to the best multiplied by 2: (125 X 2 = 250).

The final exam is required of all students – students fail the course automatically if they do not take the final. Students cannot skip or miss this exam for any reason except extended hospital stay (two or more days in the hospital) or death in the immediate family. Appropriate documentation is required for an excuse to be valid, and a different exam must be taken by the student within one week of the final exam. The make-up final exam will be written and include essays.
Exam Procedures

All lecture exams (including the final) will be given through the WesternOnline site for our course. Each exam will be posted to WesternOnline for 48 hours at times specified in the calendar on-line on WesternOnline. The questions are randomized and each student will receive a randomly selected set of questions. The exams are open book and open note, but you will only have 90 minutes to complete them; 2 hours will be given for the final exam. When you submit your exam, it will be graded and returned to you via WesternOnline – please allow at least one week for grading and results to be posted.

Lab Work  150 Points

You will work on a total of 14 labs during the course of the semester worth 10 points each (14 X 10 = 140). Labs must be turned in on time to the teaching assistants! Late labs lose 2 points every day they are late. Perfect lab attendance results in additional 10 points to your grade, making your total possible lab points 150. Your teaching assistants will provide you with more information and details on the lab assignments and how to accomplish them.

How Grades Are Determined

1 of 2 Highest Marked Lecture Exams (125) X 2  = 250 Points  42% of grade
1 Semi-Cumulative Final Exam  = 200 Points  33% of grade
Lab Work  = 150 Points  25% of grade
Total Points  = 600 Points  100% of grade

Grading Scale  I do not grade on a curve.

93-100%  A  558-600
90-92%  A-  540-557
87-89%  B+  522-539
83-86%  B  498-521
80-82%  B-  480-497
77-79%  C+  462-479
73-76%  C  438-461
70-72%  C-  420-437
67-69%  D+  402-419
63-66%  D  378-401
60-62%  D-  360-377
00-59%  F  000-359

Extra Credit

You have the opportunity to earn 600 points in this course from a wide variety of activities (exams, participation, lab work) spread over the semester. Therefore, neither I nor the teaching assistants will offer extra credit assignments – the grade you earn corresponds to the points you accumulate. Please do not ask for extra credit assignments – none will be given.

Students with Disabilities

“In accordance with University policy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), academic accommodations may be made for any student who notifies the instructor of the need for an accommodation. It is imperative that you take the initiative to bring such needs to the instructor’s attention, as he/she is not legally permitted to inquire about such particular needs of students. Students who may require special assistance in emergency evacuations (i.e., fire, tornado, etc.) should
contact the instructor as to the most appropriate procedures to follow in such an emergency. Contact Disability Support Services at 298-2512 for additional services.” See also: http://dss.wiu.edu/

Words of wisdom from Homer Simpson on science:

“Phfft! Facts. You can use them to prove anything.”

“In this house, we obey the laws of thermodynamics!”

“Facts are meaningless. You could use facts to prove anything that's even remotely true!”

“I am so smart, I am so smart, s-m-r-t....I mean s-m-A-r-t.”

The calendar of readings and schedule of exams is available on a separate sheet which is handed out on the first day of class, and on-line via WesternOnline. This calendar can be updated throughout the semester on-line – check WesternOnline often for updates and attend lecture.