

ded “Satisfactory” or “Unsatisfactory.” The capstone course in biology. Students are required to attend outside
en by the instructor. This course assesses students’ ability to research independently topics in biology, assimilate
ion, and disseminate the information in an organized and understandable fashion in both written and oral forms.
onstrating comprehension of their topic and competence in communication skills, students take the ETS Major
biology and complete the departmental Senior Exit Questionnaire for successful course completion. [0-3-1]

Course objectives:

- To assess students ability to independently research topics in biology, assimilate the information, and then to disseminate the information in an organized and understandable fashion in both written and oral forms.
- To administer and evaluate students’ satisfactory completion of the ETS Major Field Test in biology and completion of the departmental Senior Eonioi3Senidesalnaor/TT4 1 Tf6-1.796421..22197 TD55Course Outcomes

_____ . This course meets the follo wing educational outcomes.

VSU General Education Outcomes 4, 7

Biology Educational Outcome 1

Specific Course Requirements:

- Outline with references for term paper (due by 5 p.m. Thurs., 17 February)
- Oral Presentation
- Term Paper
- Completion of the Major Fields Test in Biology with a score of 140 or higher.
- Completion of the Senior Exit Questionnaire
- Attendance at all scheduled class meetings
- Attendance of and submission of completed evaluation forms for all science seminars.

Major Field Test. The ETS Major Field Test is a comprehensive, standardized test designed to evaluate the student’s general knowledge in the sub-disciplines of biology. The test scores will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the department’s curriculum, and VSU’s scores will be compared to the national average to identify possible weak areas in our curriculum. Thus, students should take the test seriously and make every effort to excel on it. *Completion of the ETS Major Field Test with a score of 140 or higher is a course requirement, and students who fail to complete the ETS Major Field Test will receive a grade of unsatisfactory for the course.*

Each individual student is responsible for contacting the VSU Testing Office (Powell Hall-West, First Floor, Room 1120; Telephone 229-245-3878) and arranging a time to take the ETS Major Field Test in Biology. Students must complete the Major Field Test by Friday, 11 February 2011. A fee is assessed to take the Major Field Test. The Biology Department

seminar, it is the student's responsibility to see the instructor immediately after each seminar and submit her/his signed,

Written Term Paper:

Written term papers are due at the time of your scheduled presentation to the class. The term paper must be delivered electronically *twice*, once to Dr. Goddard's email address (

Additional Instructions for Seminar Talk Presentation

1. Talks are expected to be professional in nature.
 - a) Delivered on assigned date
 - b) Organized
 - c) Well spoken (adequate volume, elocution)
 - d) Practiced
 - e) Substantial / non-superficial
 - f) Demonstrate a clear mastery and understanding of the topic and relevant biology
2. Talks should last about 20 min with an additional 5 minutes allowed at the end for questions and discussions.
3. Talks should be prepared using PowerPoint

Note: PowerPoint allows for vast amounts of graphic design for presentation slid

