

Biol 1010: Evolution & the Diversity of Life

Spring 2024 Course Syllabus

Department of Biology, College of Science & Mathematics, Valdosta State University
Meetings 2:00-3:15 in 1011 Bailey Science Center The Large Auditorium

Dr. Leslie S. Jones

Please Use Blazeview email for All Routine Class Communications

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Office Hours: Tues 11:30-

Biol 1010 Spring 2024 Revised Schedule

Topic _____ SmartBooks _____ Other Assignments _____

Unit 1: The Nature of Science

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|--|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. The Natural World | | |
| 1/9 Storm Holiday | | |
| 1/11 Levels of Organization | | |
| 2. The Sciences | | |
| 1/16 Holism & Reductionism | | Alphabetical Review Homework Due |
| 1/18 Natural Disciplines & Social Implications | | |
| 3. Reasoning | | |
| 1/23 Induction & Patterns in Nature | Ch.1 | |
| 1/25 Deduction & Certainty | | |
| 4. Sex & Gender | | |
| 1/30 Biological Sex | Ch.35 | |
| 2/1 Cultural Construction of Gender | | |
| 5. Life | | |
| 2/6 Characteristics of Life | | Optional Essay on Sex & Gender (2/10) |
| 2/8 Emergent Properties | | |
| 6. Transition | | |
| 2/13 Unit 1 Test The Natural World | | Pretest Due 2/12 |

Unit 2: Evolution

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|---|-------|--|
| 2/15 Social Religious Controversy that Surrounded Evolution | | |
| 7. History | | |
| 2/20 Origins | Ch.15 | |
| 2/22 Evidence | Ch.13 | |
| 8. Types of Selection | | |
| 2/27 Artificial | Ch.12 | |
| 2/29 Natural | | |

Midterm 2/29 & Last Day to Drop Classes

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|------------------------------------|-------|--|
| 9. Change over Time | | |
| 3/5 Speciation | Ch.14 | |
| 3/7 Patterns, Rates, & Extinctions | | |

XXXXXXX SPRING BREAK (3/11-3/15)

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|---------------------|--|--|
| 10. Human Evolution | | |
| 3/19 Migrations | | |

BIOL 1010 Class Support

Emails - Please Use Our Blazeview (BV) Email for All Class Matters!!!

I check it often and will respond as long as your message was polite.

If several people ask the same question, I will respond to the whole class.

My VSU email: lesliesj@valdosta.edu should only be used if your message is urgent.

BIOL 1010 Course Policies

Your Grade Depends on Your Effort

Attendance 20%
 SmartBook Assignments 15%
 Practice Pretests (2/12, 3/25, 4/20) 15%
 Unit Tests Multiple Choice - Each is 10% for 30% Total
 Optional Essay Scores Are Added to Each Test Grade
 Comprehensive Final Exam - 20%

As you can see, the tests are only half of your grade.

Going to class and doing the assignments will add up to the other half.

Blazeview Record of Your Grades

All grades will be recorded in the BV Learning Management System. You will know where you stand because even the Connect assignments are linked to this. At times you will notice that the grades go up or down for unknown reasons. The only explanation for these weird events is that the ghosts of the Internet like to scare students and get them to send screaming emails to faculty members. At the end of the semester, my grades are often more generous than those that are calculated on BV, so try not to worry about a few points, until the end of the semester. You can do the math and calculate your grades. If you want me to check them, I want to see that your calculations are different from BV before I calculate them

Personal Responsibility

You must keep track of all assignment deadlines - **late work will not be accepted!!!**

SmartBook & Pretest assignments should be completed early because those deadlines are final.

If you miss a unit test for any reason, you must notify me within 24 hours.

Make-up tests will only be given for legitimate reasons and will be Essay Exams.

Your grades will be posted in Blazeview, so you will know where you stand.

If that is not the grade you want for the semester, make more effort on the assignments!

Class Decorum

When class begins at 2:00, **be prepared to begin taking notes** in writing or on a laptop.

You are more than welcome to record the lectures to playback later.

I encourage you to snap images of key slides on your phones.

It is very easy for us to tell if a student is on a phone during class.

This is a large class and getting up distracts your classmates.

You should **only get up during class if you have a personal emergency.**

Phone calls can wait even if it is your mother or someone that important!

Class ends at 3:15. I can tell the time, so we will usually end just before the designated time.

Please do not fidget or rattle your book bags until the minute hand is horizontal.

