



Marshall University Syllabus

College of Science

Biology

Course

Introduction to Biology; BSC 104

Course Description

Fundamentals of biology with emphasis on the unity of life, energetics, genetics, evolution, classification of organisms in the kingdom of life. Intended for non-science majors. Does not count toward a major in Biological Sciences.

Credits

Undergraduate: 4-credits; 3 h lecture, 2 h laboratory

Prerequisites

none

Term/Year

Fall 2018

Class Meeting Days/Times

Tues/Thurs (5:00 PM to 7:20 PM)

Location

Hurricane High School, Room – 226

Academic Calendar

For beginning, ending, and add/drop dates, see the [Marshall University Academic Calendar](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-calendar/) (URL: <http://www.marshall.edu/academic-calendar/>).

Instructor

Manjira Kumar (PhD)

Contact Information

- Office: N/A (Off Campus Course)
- Office Hours: By appointment

- Office Phone: N/A
- Marshall Email: ghoshkumar@marshall.edu

Required and/or Recommended Texts and Materials

Lecture: *Biology Now* by [Anne Houtman](#) (Author, *Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology*), [Megan Scudellari](#) (Author), [Cindy Malone](#) (Author, *California State University - Northridge*) (W. W. Norton; second edition)

Lab: BSC104: Introduction to Biology for Non-Majors Laboratory Manual by Susan Weinstein (Marshall University; 18th Edition)

Course Student Learning Outcomes

The overall objective of this course is to introduce the principles and processes of biology through an emphasis on the natural world and on current topics in the field of biology. Laboratories will present simple experiments to further strengthen those concepts learned in lecture.

Course student learning outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course
Students will understand the basic knowledge associated with modern biology and its sub-disciplines (cell biology, genetics, evolution, classification of living organisms).	Attending lectures, reading class material, joining in with class discussion. Students will perform experiments and analyze data.	Exams and quizzes will evaluate understanding of basic biological knowledge. Laboratories exercises will be graded.
Students will be able to apply the basic knowledge to current health, political, and social issues.	Attending lectures, reading class material, joining in with class discussion.	Exams and quizzes will have sections to evaluate knowledge as it relates to current issues.

Course student learning outcomes	How students will practice each outcome in this course	How student achievement of each outcome will be assessed in this course
Students will acquire critical-thinking skills considering the rapidly growing body of knowledge in biological science theories and use that to evaluate information regarding concepts in biology from modern sources such as the internet and social media.	Attending lectures, reading class material, joining in with class discussion.	Exams and quizzes will have critical thinking questions. Laboratory notebooks will be evaluated regarding ability to think critically and understand what labs are demonstrating.

Dates to Remember

First day of classes: August 20; **Labor Day Holiday:** Sept 3; **Freshman/Sophomore midterm grades due:** Oct 8; **Last Day to Drop:** Oct 26; **Thanksgiving:** Nov 19 – 23; **Dead Week:** Dec 3 – 7; **Last day of class:** Dec 6; **Cumulative Final:** Dec 11; **Final grades due:** Dec 17

Grading Policy

Numeric grades will be based on a normal distribution with letter grades assigned as follows:

A = 90 - 100% (≥ 450 points); B = 80–89% (≥ 400 points); C = 70–79% (≥ 350 points); D = 60–69% (≥ 300 points) F = <60% (< 300 points)

Exams	02 exams (100X2 = 200 points each)
Quizzes	11 total (10X11 = 110 points each)
Laboratory reports	13 total (10X13 = 130 points)
Cumulative lab. final	50 points
Group Discussions	10 points
Total points	500 points

Attendance/Participation Policy

Attendance is required, unless if you are excused by the office of student affairs.

Only "Excused Absences", as defined in the policy, can be made up. The proper procedure is to notify me (by e-mail, phone, or in person) as soon as possible; any documentation (such as doctor's notes) must be submitted directly to the Office of Student Affairs, MSC 2W38 who will then notify me. Note that one lab grade will be dropped in computing your score. There will be no make-up lab. Therefore, you will lose your lab report points. However, if you are absent for your exam and are excused, you could take the exam within 24 hours after the exam is over. Please notify me with proper documentation ASAP.

University Policies

By enrolling in this course, you agree to the University Policies. Please read the full text of each policy (listed below) by going to [MU Academic Affairs: University Policies](http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/). (URL: <http://www.marshall.edu/academic-affairs/policies/>)

- Academic Dishonesty Policy
- Academic Dismissal Policy
- Academic Forgiveness Policy
- Academic Probation and Suspension Policy
- Affirmative Action Policy
- Dead Week Policy
- D/F Repeat Rule
- Excused Absence Policy for Undergraduates
- Inclement Weather Policy
- Sexual Harassment Policy
- Students with Disabilities (Policies and Procedures)
- University Computing Services Acceptable Use Policy

Course Schedule

Date	Chapters/Topics/assignments
08/21 (T)	Chapter 1/2
08/23 (R)	Lab 1
08/28(T)	Chapter 3/4 (quiz 1)
08/30 (R)	Lab 2
09/04 (T)	Chapter 5/6 (quiz 2)
09/06 (R)	Lab 3
09/11 (T)	Chapter 7/8 (quiz 3)
09/13 (R)	Lab 4
09/18 (T)	Review (quiz 4)
09/20 (R)	Lab 5
09/25 (T)	Midterm
09/27 (R)	Lab 6
10/02 (T)	Chapter 9/10
10/04 (R)	Lab 7
10/09 (T)	Chapter 11/12 (quiz 5)
10/11 (R)	Lab 8
10/16 (T)	Chapter 13/14 (quiz 6)
10/18 (R)	Lab 9
10/23 (T)	Chapter 15/16 (quiz 7)
10/25 (R)	Lab 10
10/30 (T)	Chapter 17/18 (quiz 8)
11/01 (R)	Lab 11
11/06 (T)	Chapter 19/20/21 (quiz 9)
11/08 (R)	Lab 12
11/13 (T)	Group discussions ((quiz 11)
11/15 (R)	Lab 13
11/27 (T)	Review

11/29 (R)	Cumulative lab final
12/04 (T)	Review
12/06 (R)	Review
12/11 (R)	Exam (Cumulative final) 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

- *Instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus if needed for the fulfillment of the course objective and outcome*
- *Use of cell phone is not allowed during class lecture and lab*