

EVOLUTION AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE- BIOL 1010 ONLINE

COURSE INFORMATION:

- a. Title: Evolution and Diversity of Life (BIOL 1010 Section P01)
- b. Instructor: Dr. Brian C. Ring (bcring@valdosta.edu)
- c. Office: Bailey Science Center 2084, Valdosta State University
- d. Phone: 229-249-4841

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the diversity of life on Earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationship

- Co-requisite BIOL 1020L ONLINE: The online lab is specifically designed to complement your understanding of the concepts covered in the course through simulations and discussions. Students taking the online 1010 should also be taking the online 1020 Lab.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course fulfills one portion of Area D of the Learning Outcomes for Valdosta State University's Core Curriculum: Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems. (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/general-education-council/ge-outcomes.php>)

Specifically, students will:

- a. Learn about the nature of science and how to build scientific knowledge;
- b. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of evolution and how it relates to biodiversity;
- c. Effectively organize, communicate and apply their knowledge of biology to their everyday lives.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook: Concepts of Biology from OpenStax College, ISBN 1-938168-11-9,
<https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology>

Readings will be assigned from Concepts of Biology. The text is available free online, in a variety of formats, and a print version or mobile app are available to purchase.

Additional readings and videos will regularly be assigned and made available via Blazeview.

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Learning is not a passive activity in which you simply absorb and repeat back facts given by an instructor. Rather, learning requires you to take an active role. In fact, to truly understand science you must construct your own personal interpretation of the concepts and store them away in a form that is meaningful to you.

Students will be assigned reading material. Facts and vocabulary are important to any discipline, though I ask you to go beyond simple memorization of details and interconnect those facts to concepts, applications and problems; to ask meaningful questions; to test well developed hypotheses; to develop a range of intellectual abilities, including critical thinking, logical argument, appropriate uses of evidence and interpretation of varied kinds of information; and to communicate your understanding in writing and orally to multiple audiences.

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