

**BIOL 1010 B: The Evolution & Diversity of Life  
FALL 2020 SYLLABUS & COURSE POLICIES**

**Lecture: MWF 11:00 am-11:50 am (SU Ballroom)**

**Instructor: Dr. Mark Blackmore**

**Office: Bailey Science Center 2218**

**Office Hours: by appointment**

**Contact information**

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**Course description: BIOL 1010. Introduction to Biology: The Evolution and Diversity of Life. 3 Hours.**

This course cannot be taken for credit toward the major in biology. An introduction to the diversity of life on Earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationships.

as the equivalent of one exam. Five lecture examinations (75 points each) covering the lecture material and assigned reading will be administered during the semester. These exams will consist of some combination of multiple-choice and true-false questions. Diagrams and questions requiring matching also may be included. The lowest of these lecture exams will be dropped. A comprehensive **Final Exam will be administered at 10:15 a.m. on Thursday, December 12.** The Final Exam will be weighted the same as one lecture exam (100 points = 20% of the final class grade).

Tentative dates for reading assignments and lecture exams are given below and students are expected to consider these dates when planning their study schedule for the semester. *There will be no make-up exams without **prior** consent of the instructor.* Students who miss an exam for legitimate, unavoidable reasons (*eg.* emergency hospitalization; death in the immediate family) should contact the instructor ***immediately*** and must document the reason for the absence. All exams and quizzes will be comprehensive but each test will emphasize the material most recently covered.

**Grading:** There are 3 types of assessment in this class: Chapter pre-quizzes; Exams and an Optional Final Exam. Chapter pre-quiz scores are 20% of the course grade (100 points) and must be counted toward the overall course grade. Exams are either 60% (300 points) or 80% (400 points) depending on whether the Final Exam is taken.

**Special notes to students:**

To protect the privacy of each student, grades will not be posted at any time nor will they be revealed over the telephone. This is university policy. Students are advised to consult the VSU web site for more information. Students are able to view their grades in the Gradebook of Pearson Mastering which may be accessed through BlazeVIEW D2L.

**Policy on cell phone, smart phones, and other internet-enabled devices:**

**Students should NOT use these devices during lectures (turn them OFF) and they are prohibited during examinations. *Use of any electronic device during examinations will result in automatic grade of 0 (zero) for that exam.***

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic Honesty Policy: Cheating, and plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own, or doing work for a

University's Title IX Coordinator: The Director of the Office of Social Equity, [titleix@valdosta.edu](mailto:titleix@valdosta.edu), 1208  
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