

BIOL 1100**Biology Freshman Seminar****Fall 2011**

Instructor: Dr. Brian C. Ring
 Office: BSC 2092
 Office hours: M 11:00 – 12:00 PM, W 11:00 – 12:00 PM
 Phone: 333-5759
 Email: bcring@valdosta.edu, please use BlazeView first

Pre- and/or Co- Requisites:

BIOL 1100 is required as a co-requisite for all incoming freshmen biology majors before or during enrollment in BIOL 1107.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Students will learn the following:

- 1) Biology major requirements, general advising, strategies for success, and related career paths from biological research to professional programs;
- 2) The basics of the scientific method and scientific writing.

These learning outcomes correspond to the biology educational outcome #1 and the VSU General Educational Outcomes 3, 5, 7 and 8.

Required Course Materials: Response Card NXT Clicker (Turning Technologies), ISBN# 9781934931455

Assessments:**Course Grade**

Attendance & Participation	50 %	90 – 100 % = A
Scientific Writing	20 %	80 – 89.9 % = B
Career Plan	10 %	70 – 79.9 % = C
Career Slide	10 %	60 – 69.9 % = D
Scientific Method Quiz	<u>10 %</u>	< 59.9 % = F
Total	100 %	

Attendance:

Attendance in this course is absolutely required. Each student is responsible for all material missed regardless of the reason for absences. Attendance will be taken daily through role and/or clicker. Note the University policy regarding attendance: **1) Students who miss 20% of lecture time will receive an automatic failing grade for the course (>3 days missed).** **2) Students who do not regularly attend lecture, as determined by taking class role, by the proof roll date may be automatically dropped from the class.** **(3) Students who neither drop nor attend class by the midterm date will receive an automatic F for the course.**

Students who miss 20 % of lecture time on a given day will be counted as absent for that day.

Privacy Act (FERPA): The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibit the public posting of grades by social security number or in any manner personally identifiable to the individual student. No grades can be given by email or over the telephone, as positive identification can not be made by this manner.

Disruptive behavior: No disruptive behavior of any kind will be tolerated in this course. Students should restrict talking and discussion to pertinent questions related to course material and these questions should be directed toward the instructor. Entering a classroom late or early is discouraged. Any student disrupting lectures will be required to leave the classroom. Use of cellular telephones, pagers, or any similar remote communication device is prohibited during class time.

Biology Tutoring/SSC. The following statement was copied from the SSC Website: "The Student Success Center (SSC) at Valdosta State University is located in Langdale Residence Hall above the Tech Shop and is available to all students. The SSC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The SSC also provides free professional academic advising and on-campus job information in one location. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit the website: www.valdosta.edu/ssc."

Students with Disabilities: Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in room Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (voice) and 219-1348 (tty).

Student Clicker Use Acknowledgements:

1. I understand that for this course, I will use a Clicker where my responses and submission from this device plays an integral part in my class participation and grades in this course.
2. I understand that my responsibility for this course is to purchase a Clicker from the VSU Bookstore (The XR ResponseCard made by Turning Technologies) by the date specified by my instructor.
3. I understand that I must be present in class when The Clicker Orientation is given. The presenter(s) of this orientation shows students how to use Clickers for this course, and shows students where to find online guides and support information on the Clicker website. If I miss this orientation, I understand that I am responsible for reviewing the online orientation.
4. I understand that in order for me to receive my grades in BlazeVIEW, I must log into my course and submit my Clicker's Device ID number which is located on the back of my Clicker under the barcode. I must submit/register the Device ID Number by the date specified my instructor.
5. If I lose my Clicker or have to replace it for any reason, I understand that I have to log into my course and submit this new Clicker's Device ID number. I then have to notify the instructor so that he/she can update the Clicker Participant list in order to receive grades from this new device.
6. I understand that I must periodically log into BlazeVIEW and check my grades after the Clicker Sessions. If I'm not receiving my grades, I must report this to the instructor immediately.
7. I understand that my Instructor is not responsible for troubleshooting technical issues with my Clicker, so I must also report missing grades issues to the IT Helpdesk who will assist me and direct me to appropriate eLearning staff to resolve the issue. I understand that I should not allow missing grades to accumulate so I will continue to meet, correspond, and follow up with technical support until my issues are resolve and I am receiving Clicker grades.
8. I understand that using another student's Clicker with the intention of submitting responses and answers when they are not present in class is a violation of the Academic Honesty Policy at Valdosta State University.
9. I understand that sharing my Clicker with another student is not recommended, even if the other student has a different class at a different time.
10. I have taken and passed the Clicker Quiz with a 100% score. Although this quiz does not count as a course grade, it is required because of the importance of this technology and that the quiz serves as a means to reinforce understanding of what is required.

Sections**C:** Tuesday / 2:00 pm – 2:50 pm**G:** Thursday / 12:30 pm - 1:20 pm**H:** Thursday / 2:00 pm - 2:50 pm**Dates**

Week	Topic	Tuesday Class	Thursday Class
1	Introduction to the Department/College/VSU	8/16	8/18
2	Student Success Center Seminar Clicker Training & Quiz	8/23	8/25
3	Library Tour	8/30	9/1
4	Biology Exam, Assessment Plans	9/6	9/8
5 - 6	Scientific Writing	9/13 9/20	9/15 9/22
7	BlazeView, eCore Seminar	9/27	9/29
8	Advising, BA/BS worksheet, tracks Midterm 10/6/11	10/4	10/6
9-11	Careers in Biology/Slide Presentations	10/11 10/18 11/1	10/13 10/20 10/27
12	Discussion, 4 year and 10 year plan	11/8	11/3
13	Scientific Method and the Enterprise of Science	11/15	11/10
14	VSU Clubs, SIFE, BBB, AED	11/22	11/17
15	Directed Study, Lab Research, Study Abroad	11/29	12/1
16	Discussion	12/8 or 12/9 Time to be Announced	