

Biology 12 – Human Biology

Tentative Course Outline

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Text: *Human Biology: Health, Homeostasis,
and the Environment*
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Themes

Structure and function are inseparable.
The human body strives to maintain homeostasis.

My Philosophy of Education

I see my job as instructor as being that of a facilitator to your learning. I attempt to design courses, classroom exercises, and out-of-class exercises to maximize your learning. You can master *the learning* in this course quickly and easily if your mind is constantly engaged with the learning. When you are in my classroom, my job is to help you be as engaged and active with the material as possible. When you are out of the classroom, you are responsible for engaging your mind with the learning. The more your mind thinks about the material discussed in this course, the more you will learn. I encourage you not only to complete your assignments and readings in a thorough and timely manner, but also to take note of the biology in yourself and the world around you. Pay attention to smaller details you may have previously overlooked. *Did my toenails grow this fast last month? Do I always lose this much hair when I brush it? His skin looks especially dry this winter...* Please feel comfortable bringing questions to class so that we might discuss and learn from them. We are equals partners in education: my job is to engage your mind and so is yours.

Grading

Points available are as follows:

		Total points	Grade	Percent	Points you must earn
Exams I - IV	100 pts. ea.	400	A	90	698
Quizzes I – V(drop low score)	10 pts. ea.	40	B	80	620
In-class assignments (20)	4 pts ea.	80	C	70	542
Article critiques I - IV	15 pts ea.	60	D	60	464
Final Exam	200 pts	<u>200</u>	F	50	463 or less
	Total:	780			

Note: point availability subject to change

Exams will contain multiple choice, fill-in, true/false, matching short answer and essay responses. Exams will begin within five minutes of starting class. You have the full class time to complete to the exam. Exams cannot be made up.

Quizzes will contain multiple choice, fill-in, true/false, matching short answer and essay responses. Quizzes may be given at any point during class. Quizzes cannot be made up.

Please help me make the learning easier for you. If you need further explanations of or other assistance understanding the course material, I can only provide them for you if you communicate your needs to me. I am happy to facilitate individual learning.

Article critiques: Peruse newspapers and magazine for current information regarding human biology. The article may be of any length, but short articles (i.e. 1 –2 columns) can be difficult to summarize. Select an article discussing a topic covered in the current unit of class. Acceptable articles can be found in newspapers, newsmagazines, and biology and health related journals. In your critique you will summarize the article, discuss the new information it provides, discuss the strength of its conclusions, and indicate how this article related to the learning in class. You must photocopy the article and staple it to your critique; be sure to include article source and date. Critiques should be typed and will be graded according to the criteria listed below. Critiques are due at the beginning of class on the dates listed in the course outline.

To earn full credit, simply address each of the following in your critique:

	Points available
Summary of the article	3
New information provided in this article	2
Strength of conclusions	2
How article related to topics discussed in class	3
Photocopy of article, stapled	1
Article source and date	1
200-500 words	1
Word count provided	1
Typed	1
Total possible:	15

Things to consider when writing your critique (You are not required to address each of these questions or statements. They are here to help guide your thinking.)

Summary of the article: What old information was discussed? What new information was provided? How does this new information differ from the old? What are the general conclusions?

New information provided in this article: How was this information obtained? Why is this information so important? What new avenues can be explored as a result of discovering this information?

Strength of conclusions: Are the conclusions valid? Why or why not? What are the consequences of these conclusions? Do you think we were better off before or after this information? Explain.

Add/Drop: You must earn a C or better to receive credit for this course. You are responsible for adding and/or dropping the course. You have until 8 April 2000 to drop and receive a "W". After 8 April 2000, you are committed to a letter grade (i.e. A – F).

Cheating and plagiarism are unacceptable behavior and not tolerated in academics. Anyone suspected of cheating will receive an F in this course. See the college catalog for more information.

Make-up exams/Make-up quizzes are not permitted except under extenuating circumstances. To qualify for a make-up exam you contact me in class or via e-mail at least 5 days prior to the exam. Make-up exams are administered rarely and only once per student.

Late assignments are not accepted. Article critiques and/or take home quizzes are due as you walk into the classroom. Tardiness results in half-credit. No assignments are accepted for credit after the end of class.

Attendance is mandatory. In-class assignments are only accepted during class. Attendance and participation in the in-class activities can increase your standing in this class.

Tentative Course Schedule

Unit	Week	Date	Topics	Chapter(s)	Notes
1	1	19-Jan	Living things, humans, course introduction and themes	1	Quiz I Critique 1
	2	24-Jan	Molecules of life	2	
	3	26-Jan	Cells: anatomy and physiology	3	
		31-Jan	Cell physiology	3	
	4	2-Feb	Tissue	4	
4	7-Feb	Muscles and bones	13		
2	5	9-Feb	EXAM I		Quiz II Critique II
		14-Feb	Nutrition	5	
	6	16-Feb	Digestion	5	
		21-Feb	Holiday		
	7	23-Feb	Excretion	10	
		28-Feb	Excretion	10	
	8	1-Mar	Respiration	9	
		6-Mar	Respiration	9	
8-Mar	EXAM II				
3	9	13-Mar	Circulatory system	6	Quiz III Critique III
		15-Mar	Blood	7	
	10	20-Mar	Immune	8	
		22-Mar	Nervous	11	
	11	27-Mar	Senses	12	
		29-Mar	Exercise physiology		
12	3-Apr	EXAM III			
4	13	5-Apr	Endocrine	14	Quiz IV Critique IV
		10-Apr	Human heredity	16	
	14	12-Apr	Human reproduction: male	19	
		17-Apr	Human reproduction: female	19	
	15	19-Apr	Birth control and STDs	19	
		24-Apr	Holiday		
	16	26-Apr	Holiday		
1-May		Pregnancy, development, aging	20		
3-May	EXAM IV				
5	17	8-May	Human biology and the law		Quiz V
		10-May	Humans and the environment	24	
	18	17-May	FINAL EXAM, 9:45 – 11:45 am		