

# Biology 101: The Science of Life

Spring 2007

Science 106

**Instructor:** Dr. Sharon Gilman  
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**Office Hours:** MWF 8:30-12:00, or any other time you find me there. Please do not hesitate to call me or leave messages on voice mail or e-mail if you have questions or wish to set up an appointment.

**Required Text:** Belk, C. and V. Borden. 2007. Biology: Science for Life, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

**Course Web Stie:** <http://kingfish.coastal.edu/biology/sgilman/101.htm>

**Student Learning Goals:** This course is intended to provide an introduction to biology to non-science majors. You will learn how living systems work and change, from the tiniest bacteria to yourselves to the ecosystems of the earth, and how all these things are interconnected. Science and technology is moving rapidly forward these days and it is important that all people be able to understand it and make informed decisions. My goal is to excite and inspire your interest in learning about biology now and throughout your lives. The specific topics we will address are listed in the class schedule. You will be asked to demonstrate your comprehension of these through various assessment strategies as generally described below.

**My Job:** I am committed to helping you learn the basics of biology. To do this I will be on time, prepared, accessible, respectful, and fair. I will also be enthusiastic because I think biology is fascinating and will do my best to see that you end up agreeing with me! I will return your work in a timely manner and I am at your service to answer any and all questions related to class material, assignments, and grades.

**Your Job:** My philosophy of teaching is that it is the student's responsibility, in the end, to learn the course content. I'm here to help, obviously, but you must be an active learner in this class. To do this, you must first and foremost show up. On time please. Like me, you also must be prepared, respectful, and, perhaps most importantly, ENTHUSIASTIC, even if you have to fake it! You should also ask questions if you don't get something—trust me that there are none that are silly. All that plus attention to your assignments in and out of class, and you've got it.

**Assessment:** “You got what you settled for.” Thelma and Louise, 1991

Since you are assuming responsibility for your learning, you also determine the grade you get. I will help you get the grade you want and I will gladly show you how you're doing anytime you ask. There are two exams plus a final which are all scheduled on the syllabus. These will be explained as we go along. Grades on assignments will be reduced by 10% for every day late. Other than that, there will be assorted in-class activities and the occasional extra credit opportunity. Obviously if you aren't IN class, you can't get points for in-class activities.

Make-up exams and assignments are not given except for university excused absences. See the current university catalog for details.

2 exams @ 100 pts	200 pts
Homework and In-Class Activities	100 pts
Final exam	100 pts
<b>Total</b>	<b>400 pts</b>

Grades will be based on the following point percentages: A = 100-90%, B+ = 89-86%, B = 85-80%, C+ = 79-76%, C = 75-70%, D+ = 69-66%, D = 65-60%, F = <60%

**PLEASE TURN OFF AND PUT AWAY YOUR CELL PHONES DURING CLASS**

### Class Schedule

(**Except for exam dates**, this is subject to change at Dr. Gilman's discretion and "reading" refers to the text book unless otherwise indicated. Additional readings may be assigned. Blank spaces do not mean we aren't doing anything that day!!)

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Reading</b>
Jan 11	Introduction to Biology 101	
Jan 16	Introduction to Science	Ch 1
Jan 18		
Jan 23	The Only Diet You Will Ever Need	Ch 3
Jan 25		
Jan 30	Is the Earth Warming?	Ch 4
Feb 1		
Feb 6	A Biodiversity Crisis?	Ch 14
Feb 8		
Feb 13	<b>Exam I</b>	
<b>Feb 15</b>	<b>Celebration of Inquiry – there will be an assignment associated with this</b>	
Feb 20	Cancer	Ch 5
Feb 22		
Feb 27	Are You Only as Smart as Your Genes?	Ch 6
Mar 1		
Mar 6	DNA Detective	Ch 7
Mar 8		
<b>Mar 12-16</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Mar 20	Genetic Engineering	Ch 8
Mar 22		
<b>Mar 23</b>	<b>Last Day to Drop with a W</b>	
Mar 27		
<b>Mar 29</b>	<b>Exam II</b>	
Apr 3	Where Did We Come From?	Ch 9
Apr 5		
Apr 10	An Evolving Enemy	Ch 10
Apr 12		
Apr 17	Who Am I: Species and Races	Ch 11
Apr 19		
Apr 24	Is the Human Population Too Large?	Ch 13
Apr 26		

**Final Exam: Tuesday, May 2, 11:00, Sci 106**