**WELCOME TO BIOLOGY 102**

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**Course Description:**

**Biol 102 – The Living World (3 credits at SCSU):** Plants, animals, and microorganisms of North America. Interactions of organisms with their environment. Minnesota habitats and their inhabitants.

To understand the nature of science and its methods

 To learn and understand the theory of evolution

 To learn and understand biological diversity

 To learn and understand ecological concepts, with an emphasis on Minnesota habitats

Prerequisites for this course: All students must be in the top 1/3 of their class and have completed Honors Chemistry with a grade of C or higher. Completion of each of these courses will earn you 3 credits at St. Cloud State University. Theis course does not satisfy the requirements of a science major course, but meet the requirements for a science lab course for non-science majors.

**Book: Required**

*Biology*, Raven, Johnson, et.al., 8th ed., 2008

**Notes and other resources**

Files containing the powerpoint notes that will be used in class are available on my web page on the Anoka High School site. Students are encouraged to download and print out the slides to take additional notes on during lecture and discussion. Study guides for each chapter and some other resources are also available from my web page. http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us/ahsstover

**You are an SCSU student**

While in this course you are also a full member of the St Cloud State University community. You will also soon be issued a HuskyNet ID. This will give you access to SCSU’s on-line library resources. You must activate your ID by going to www.stcloudstate.edu and click on **Current Student.**

We encourage you to e-mail others in your group if you have questions or need information. Some assignments will be submitted for grading electronically, so it is useful to be in contact with other group members to be able to exchange electronic documents.

**Course Requirements**

This course requires completion of one formal lab report on a topic related to evolution, worth 40 points. A rubric that describes the expectations will be provided when the report is assigned. A group project will also be assigned during this course, to complete an ecological study of the Rum River. This project will include chemical and biological data to be used as a measurement of ecosystem health, as well as several written components. The river project will be graded out of 80 points.

**College Biology 102 Class Schedule**

**WEEKS 1-4** *Unit 1 - Evolution*

SCSU Registration, fossil lab, whale evolution lab, variation and natural selection lab, Evodots simulation, popcycle simulation, speciation lab, human evolution activity, PBS evolution videos. Guppy selection simulation.

**Guppy Simulation – Formal Lab Report**

Read Chpt. 20, 21

 **Unit 1 Test**

**WEEK 5** *Unit 2 – Biodiversity*

Phylum posters, identification lab

Read Chpt. 26

 **Unit 2 Test**

**WEEKS 6-7** *Unit 3 –population and community ecology*

Population sampling activity, graphing wolf-moose data from Isle Royale, Kaibab activity, chapter 55 and chapter 56 reading guides

Read Chpts. 55, 56

 **Unit 3 Test**

**WEEKS 10-12** *Unit 4 – Energy in ecosytems*

Chapter 57 reading guide, river project (water chemical testing, invertebrate collection and identification, ecosystem observations, issue research), carbon-oxygen cycle lab, photosynthesis/respiration lab, leaf lab, photosynthesis/respiration posters

Read Chpts. 57, 7

 **Rum River Ecosystem Project**

**Unit 4 Test and Final Test**

**Course Policies**

**Late Policy**: 50% for one day late

 25% for more than one day late.

**Academic Honesty** : As a reminder, SCSU and Anoka High School have a policy on academic honesty. You are expected to abide by the procedures set forth in the SCSU Student Handbook.

See: <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/studenthandbook/policies/academic.asp> for specifics.

**Accommodating Disabilities**: Any student in this course who has a documented disability that may prevent him or her from fully demonstrating his or her abilities should contact me personally as soon possible, so we can discuss accommodations necessary to ensure full participation and facilitate your educational opportunity.

**Course Grading**

Both your High School Grade and your SCSU grade will be based on the following:

Tests/Quizzes 60%

Labwork/Coursework 40%

Grades are not “curved” and no extra credit is available unless all assignments are completed.

**Grading Scale:**

A = 93-100% A- = 90-92.9%

B+ = 87-89.9% B = 83-86.9% B- = 80-82.9%

C+ = 77-79.9% C = 73-76.9% C- = 70-72.9%

D+ = 67-69.9% D = 63-66.9% D- = 60-62.9%

F = Below 60%

* **Grades will be posted online and updated approximately every two weeks.**
* **Cheating/Plagiarism will not be tolerated and could result in a zero for that activity.**
* **Cell Phone use during class could be interpreted as cheating and could result in a zero for that activity.**

**Tests**: There will be tests throughout the course, approximately 4 unit exams and a final exam. Material on the tests will cover content from class, textbook readings, and class labs/activities. Questions could be a combination of multiple choice, short answer, matching, or essay.

**Labs:** Lab is a key component of this course and is assessed with formal lab reports. There will be 3-4 of these assigned to your lab group each quarter. Detailed requirements for each lab report will accompany each activity. Major labs can be made up by arrangement with the instructor.

**Other Assignments**: Expect to have regular homework assignments, including guided reading from the textbook, discussion questions following lab investigations, articles related to our current material, and practice problems. As a college student, you are expected to keep up with these assignments, however not all of them will be collected for a grade. Questions referring to these assignments may appear on tests.

| Characteristics of College vs. High School |
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| **Situation** | **High School** | **College** |
| Time Management | Your time is structured by others (parents and/or teachers). | ***You*** manage your own time.  |
| Personal Responsibility | You are usually told what your responsibilities are and corrected if your behavior is out of line.  | You are now responsible for what you do and what you don't do, as well as for the **consequences** of your decisions. |
| Lectures | Teachers often write information on the board to be copied into your notes.  | Professors may lecture nonstop, expecting you to identify the important points in your notes. When professors write on the board it may be to amplify the lecture, not to summarize it. Good notes, and, therefore, good attendance, is essential. |
| Outside of class studying | You may study outside of class as little as 0 to 2 hours a week. | You need to study at least 2 to 3 hours outside of class for every hour in class. This will translate to 15 – 20 hrs a week in our college course |
| Additional assignments | You are expected to read short assignments that are then discussed, and often re-taught, in class.  | You are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing that you are expected to know, but may not be directly addressed in class. |
| Grades | "Effort counts." Courses are usually structured to reward a "good faith effort" or homework and worksheets make up a big part of the grade. | "Results count." Though "good faith effort" is important in regard to the professor's willingness to help you *achieve* good results, in the grading process, it will not *substitute* for test results |