

# CYCLES OF LIFE: EXPLORING BIOLOGY

## BIO100.910



Fall 2008



NAME OF COURSE: Cycles of Life: Exploring Biology  
COURSE NUMBER: BIO100.910  
FACULTY: Daniel W. Ward, Professor of Biology  
OFFICE: SCI 122  
OFFICE HOURS: By appointment - Hours will be announced  
PHONE NUMBER: (630) 466-7900 x2945  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: dward@waubonsee.edu (work)  
TIMELINE: You must complete all course work on or before  
**December 8, 2008.**

---

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** The course begins with the origin of the universe and the atoms and elements of which it is composed. The course then examines atoms, molecules, tissues and organs. The systems formed by tissues and organs in the human body are the focus of much of the course. The concluding units consider theories of how life was formed on Earth and evolved into its present myriad forms and how humans are upsetting the delicate balance that exists among all life forms.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** On completion of the course the student should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:

- the characteristic elements, processes, and features of all life forms.
- the life process in plants.
- the life process in animals.
- the basic anatomy of the human body.
- the basic physiological processes of the human body.
- the role of humans, collectively and individually, within the environment of Earth.
- the interrelationships and interdependence of all living organisms on Earth.

TEXTBOOKS: Biology: Concepts and Applications. Seventh Edition, 2008. Cecie Starr et al.  
Student Guide For Cycles of Life: Exploring Biology. Fifth Edition. 2008. Gerald L. Kellogg.

GRADING: You will take six exams in this course. All exam scores will be based on a possible 100 points. Your final grade will be determined by averaging your five best exam scores. Your lowest exam score will be dropped. The following scale will be used to determine your final grade.

85% - 100% = A  
75% - 84% = B  
65% - 74% = C  
55% - 64% = D  
0% - 54% = F

You must **complete all course work on or before December 8**. After that you will be assigned a grade based upon your completed work. Please understand that I **do not grant automatic incompletes** if you fail to complete the course by **December 8**. Should you require an incomplete please contact me with your **written request** no later than the course drop date. Failure to do this will result in a grade being issued to you based upon the work you have completed in the course.

EXAMS: There are a total of six tests in the course. A minimum of one question is used to test each objective listed in the text and Study Guide. The following is a breakdown of the material covered on each test:

Test	Study Guide Lessons	Textbook Chapters	Tapes	# of Test Questions	Test Points
1	1-5	2-7	1-5	50	100
2	6-9	8-15	6-9	50	100
3	10-13	16-25	10-13	50	100
4	14-15	26-28	14-15	40	100
5	16-23	29-39	16-23	85	100
6	24-26	40-44	24-26	45	100

The test questions are multiple choice, similar to those found in the study guide.

Tests will be available on [August 25](#) and are to be taken in the Center of Learning Assessment on the WCC Sugar Grove campus (Collins Hall) or at the Aurora campus.

A photo ID is required to take a test. Be prepared to leave your textbooks, notes, handbags, etc. while taking the test. Your test results will be forwarded to you.

**SEQUENCE:**

A suggested method of study is to begin with the Study Guide. Each lesson in the guide corresponds with one thirty-minute videotape and selected pages from the textbook. Read the "Overview", "Learning Objective", and the "Assignments" sections. Follow the directions given in the "Assignments" section. Next, return to the Study Guide and re-read the "Overview" section and complete the "Aids for Study" section. Finally, attempt to answer the questions in the "Testing Yourself" section.

The course consists of viewing 26 half-hour videos, doing the assigned reading, studying and taking six tests. There are no class meetings scheduled so you will be working on your own for the most part.

**HOW TO SUCCEED:**

The strategy found to be most successful for passing this course is to complete the following sequence of study for each lesson.

- Read the "Overview" and "Learning Objectives" in the study guide.
- Review the identified sections of the textbook recommended in the study guide.
- Read the corresponding textbook chapter.
- Read through the questions in "Aids for Study" in the study guide.
- View the corresponding videotape.
- Complete the "Aids for Study" section.
- Evaluate your progress with the short quiz entitled "Testing Yourself" and check your answers against the answer key.

Successful students are ones who study on a regular schedule. In other words, they approach this course much the same way they do a non-telecourse in that

they do something each week instead of trying to do all the work at the end of the semester. If you find you are having trouble getting the work done, contact me. I might be able to give you some help.

#### UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE COURSE

Complete sets of DVDs are available to borrow through the Distance Learning Office. The Distance Learning Office is located on the Sugar Grove campus in Collins Hall room 145. There is no fee to borrow a set of telecourse DVDs. If you are unable to come to the Sugar Grove campus to pick up a set, please call to explore your options. The phone number is 630-466-2402.