BIOL1082/Biology for Educators Laboratory

Fall 2025

Fall 2025: August 18 – December 12, 2025

Laboratory Instructor Contact Information

**Name: Dr. Claudia Gonzalez**

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Office Location: Department of Life Sciences. LIFE “A” Room 109

Phone Number: (940) 565-3611

Office Hours (in-person and online): By appointment

Email: Canvas’ emailing system only

Teaching Assistants:

**Name: Lani Archer**

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Office Hour (in-person and online) and Location: See Canvas

Email: Canvas’ emailing system only

Laboratory Sections:

BIOL1082 Section 310 (Teaching on Thursdays 12:00 PM – 2:50 PM)

BIOL1082 Section 302 (Teaching on Thursdays 4:00 PM – 6:50 PM)

Teaching Assistants meet in-person with their students during the days and times indicated in MyUNT. Office hours (in-person or online) can be scheduled with the Teaching Assistants weekly. Each TA will provide their office hours in Canvas. Students should email their TA minimum 24 hours in advance to set up an appointment. Students should not assume their TAs are available during the day and time they requested – their time might already be scheduled by other students. The maximum time per appointment (Office hour) is 20 minutes. If the office hours are online, the TAs will send the students a link to start the meeting on Canvas at the time and day requested. These meetings will not be recorded.

**Communication Expectations:** The format of the Biology for Educators Laboratory in **FALL 2025** is in-person. Students should contact their TA and Lab Instructor with personal concerns or questions about the laboratory through the Canvas’ email system only. Students need to check their Canvas’ email regularly. Our estimated response time for emails is 24-48 hours Monday to Friday during working hours. It is the student’s responsibility to read the TA’s feedback on the graded assignments. Once the grades are posted, students will have 5 business days to request a review of their grade.

**Communication policies and netiquette:** Professional etiquette is part of your preparation as a future educator. Here are some items to consider as you work in educational environments, especially for online communication: Be kind, polite and respectful. Be a problem solver and contributor to improvement of situations. Communicating online is not always as easy because of time differences, technology challenges, and lack of context. For more information on netiquette and online communication tips visit these websites:

• Netiquette: http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html

• Online communication tips: https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips

Welcome to UNT!

As members of the UNT community, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact. UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation. UNT’s full Non-Discrimination Policy can be found in the UNT Policies section of the syllabus and at [www.unt.edu](http://www.unt.edu)

Course Description

The Biology for Educators Laboratory is part of a general biology course designated for elementary and middle school education majors seeking teaching certification. In the Biology for Educators course, students develop a meaningful and functional command of key biological concepts, an understanding of the interrelationship among all living things, and a correlation between what pre-service teachers are required to learn and what they are required to teach.

Course Structure

The BIOL1082 lab will be offered in-person only. Students need to be on campus to take and pass this lab. Canvas will contain general instructions and PowerPoints. **Quizzes will be in-person only.** The BIOL1082 students will have everything they need in the lab to be successful. The laboratory is organized in units and modules. There is one lab per week with different assignments (See table 1). The modules on Canvas will open on Mondays at 9:00 am and close on Fridays at 11:59 pm CT. There are no late assignments in this course, so plan your time accordingly.

The Biology for Educators Laboratory has three units and all of them will be taught in-person in LIFE Sciences “A” Room 111. In the lab, there are six (6) tables with four (4) chairs per table. The BIOL1082 instructor will provide a sitting chart with the students’ names during the first week of classes. Students should sit only in the assigned group. No social distancing is provided in the laboratory.

The TA will explain the safety protocols and syllabus during the first week of classes (LAB 1) through a PowerPoint. After reading the lab orientation and safety PowerPoint, students should complete quiz 1. Students that do not complete quiz 1 by the second lab will not be able to attend the lab and it will count as an absence.

**Important!**

* **In order to unlock Laboratory 1, students need to read the Syllabus and take the syllabus quiz, to confirm they read and understood the laboratory policies.**
* **The first in-person lab is on the week of August 18, 2025. Students will not need to bring their lab manual to the first laboratory. However, students will need to print and bring their lab manual to the remaining laboratory sessions.**

Students who do not feel well, have fever, have Covid19 symptoms, or have been in contact with a person that contracted Covid19 should not attend the laboratory. Contact your TA or Laboratory Supervisor if you have any questions or concerns about the BIOL1082 lab. We are happy to help you!

Course Prerequisites or Other Restrictions

The lab constitutes 30% of your overall grade in BIOL1082 course (30% the laboratory, and 70% the lecture). You must pass both the laboratory portion and the lecture portion to receive a passing grade for the course. There are no make-up laboratories.

Qualified medical excuses will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. If a student meets certain qualifications, an “Incomplete” may be issued at the discretion of the lecture instructor (neither the TA nor the Lab Supervisor has the authority to issue an “Incomplete”). Please see the college catalog to determine what conditions must be met before requesting an “Incomplete”.

Attendance Policy

Attendance in the lab is mandatory. If a student accrues more than two unexcused absences (for any reason) during the semester, the student will receive an “F” in the lab. An “F” in lab will also result in an “F” for the course (see note below). Please note that this rule applies whether or not the absences are excused. You will be counted absent if you do not attend, participate in, and complete the required activities for the day.

1. **“Make-up” labs:** We do not offer “make-up” labs for lab activities the class has completed in the preceding weeks.
2. **Alternate lab sections:** If you are unable to attend your regularly scheduled lab session and have a justifiable reason, you may be able to attend an alternate lab section within that same week. It is your responsibility to contact your lab instructor and the Lab Supervisor immediately to discuss the situation.
3. This option is not guaranteed as alternate lab sections are not always available due to logistical constraints. The student making the request must have prior approval of the Lab Supervisor. Under no circumstance will any lab section be overloaded.
4. This option is for emergencies only and you will not be allowed to attend an alternate lab section multiple time. **The decision as to whether or not a student will be allowed to attend an alternate lab section is made by the Lab Supervisor. Please remember that the lab instructors do not have the authority to give permission for a student to attend a lab section other than the one in which the student is enrolled**.
5. Your TA will call the roll exactly 5 minutes after your class starts. If you arrive to class after the roll has been called it will count as absence. However, you can still take the quiz in the remaining time indicated by your TA. You will not get extra time because you arrived late.
6. You need to stay during the entire duration of the lab. If you leave early neither of your attendance and quiz will not count.
7. For safety reasons, if you arrive using open-toe shoes your TA will ask you to leave the lab and get closed-toe shoes. You will not be able to take the quiz and then go change your shoes. You have 30 minutes to come back and avoid the absence; otherwise it will count as absence.
8. Every-time you exit the laboratory you have to sign in-and out.
9. For safety reasons, if you are using your cellphone, drinking or eating in the lab your TA will ask you to leave the laboratory and it will count as absence. In case you leave the lab for this reason, your quiz will also be zero.
10. You need to contact your TA 48 hours before you think you will have an absence, and provide the required documentation to see if you qualify for an excused absence. This does not mean your absence will be excused and/or you can re-schedule quizzes or submit late assignments

Materials

Students need to print the laboratory manual that is in Canvas and bring it to the laboratory weekly.

The lab manual is mandatory in every lab session. Not bringing the laboratory manual to class will end in losing 2 points on the quiz that day.

Additional course materials will be posted under the CONTENT tab on Canvas. Students who come to class after the first week without the required manual risk the loss of points.

Course Technology & Skills

Minimum Technology Requirements (Online)

Students need the following technology requirements, such as:

• Computer

• Reliable internet access

• Speakers

• Microphone (Optional)

• Canvas Technical Requirements (https://clear.unt.edu/supported-technologies/canvas/requirements)

• Install “Adobe flash” or “Adobe shockwave player” on your computer the first week of classes.

• Take *the syllabus quiz.* The Syllabus Quiz does not count towards the grade. The syllabus quiz is mandatory and only if you take it you will be able to see the course material.

Notes:

● Please use FireFox while you are working in your assignments and/or discussions.

● For the syllabus quiz you need LockDown Browser

● The University has iPads available at Willis Library ready for check out. These devices have access to LockDown Browser and work perfectly for the final exam.

● The computers in Sage Hall 330 have LockDown Browser.

● The desktop computers at Willis Library/BLB are good to work on assignments and/or discussions.

● Willis library has laptop computers and routers for check out.

Canvas: Take a moment to familiarize yourself with Canvas. Watch this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=2&v=x3j8V-uLkNw

Computer Skills & Digital Literacy

To succeed in the class, the student should have the following technical skills:

• Using Canvas

• Using email with attachments

• Downloading and installing software

• Using spreadsheet programs

• Using presentation and graphics programs

Technical Assistance

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UIT Help Desk:** UIT Student Help Desk site (http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm)

**Email:** helpdesk@unt.edu

**Phone**: 940-565-2324

**In Person**: Sage Hall, Room 130

**Walk-In Availability**: 8am-9pm

**Telephone Availability:**

• Sunday: noon-midnight

• Monday-Thursday: 8am-midnight

• Friday: 8am-8pm

• Saturday: 9am-5pm

**Laptop Checkout**: 8am-7pm

For additional support, visit Canvas Technical Help (https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)

Rules of Engagement

Rules of engagement refer to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors. Here are some general guidelines:

• While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.

• Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.

• Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.

• Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.

• Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.

• Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”

• Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.

• Avoid using “text-talk” unless explicitly permitted by your instructor.

• Proofread and fact-check your sources.

• Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

For more information, go to Engagement Guidelines (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips)

LAB RULES:

* You will need to wear closed toe shoes during the entire lab period. If you do not wear closed toe shoes you will be asked to leave and it will count as absence.
* Punctuality is expected. 5 minutes after the lab starts will count as absence.
* Food or drink is not allowed in the lab. Points may be deducted for the entire class if food or drink is possessed by any student in the lab setting.
* No cellphones are allowed in the laboratory. If you are using your phone in the lab you will be asked to leave and it will count as absence.
* Students are responsible for leaving their workstations clean and orderly. Points will be deducted from the grade if the workstations are not left as instructed by the TA.
* Leaving before the lab finishes will count as absence and in this case, the quiz will be zero.
* Students may not change lab sections once the semester begins. Therefore, please make all necessary schedule changes during the ADD/DROP period of registration.

Policy on Academic Misconduct:

No cheating will be tolerated. Anyone cheating (all forms) or exhibiting behaviors consistent with cheating, including (but not limited to) assisting other students with cheating; talking during a test event; sitting too closely to other students; leaving an answer sheet uncovered; taking credit for others’ work (fellow classmate, author, etc.); turning in someone else’s work as your own, etc. will receive -- as a minimum punishment – a grade of zero for the graded item. Any and all incidents of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Students and the Office of Academic Integrity. All rules and regulations as stipulated in the University Code of Conduct must be adhered to and upheld in the lab setting.

Policy on Disability Accommodations

The Department of Biological Sciences, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodation, complies with Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please read the official statement below:

Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

NOTE: A written request from the ODA office must be presented to the lab instructor even if you have already given one to the lecture instructor. We are not allowed to provide any accommodations unless the student is registered with the ODA office.

Release of Grades: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (1974), does not permit faculty or staff to report grades by phone or e-mail. Refer to the University Calendar for the last day to drop a course. Please see your instructor during office hours if you wish to discuss your grades or other pertinent issues. Asking to see your grades or to discuss them during lab time is inappropriate and violates privacy rules.

University sanctioned absences: (Please note that the semester limit of 2 absences applies whether or not the absences are excused.)

* Participation in sponsored University activity (requires prior notice along with presentation of authorized absence card from the Dean of Students Office). If you will miss a lab more than 2 times due to scheduling of sports events, training sessions, etc., you will need to change lab sections (if space is available) or drop the course and take it at another time.
* Observance of a religious holiday (must notify instructor in writing within the first 5 days of the semester)
* Qualified medical excuse (documentation required; lab instructor or Lab Supervisor should be contacted within three days of absence).

Extended absences (i.e. serious, ongoing medical issues; mandated court appearances, etc.) will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. If a student meets certain qualifications, an “Incomplete” may be issued at the discretion of the lecture instructor (neither the lab instructor nor the Lab Supervisor has the authority to issue an “Incomplete”). Please see the college catalog to determine what conditions must be met before requesting an “Incomplete”.

NOTE: These matters always involve personal and private information. Therefore, you will need to see your instructor during office hours if you wish to discuss these types of situations – doing this during lab time is inappropriate and violates privacy rules

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria

There following table explains the assignments, the points, and the percentages to calculate the final grade. Each assignment needs to be submitted within the corresponding module. For a detail description of the activities and deadlines please see table 1.

All work submitted for this class must be YOUR ORIGINAL work—that is, it cannot have been published already online, submitted for any other class (even a previous attempt at this class) or for any other purpose. Please see section of “Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty.” Turnitin will catch instances of plagiarism. For the first offense, student(s) will receive a score no greater than 50 out of 100. For a second offense, student(s) will receive a score of 0 and the offense will be reported to the Dean of Students. Extra credit opportunities are not currently provided.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Table 1: Assignments | Percentage of Final Grade |
| 10 Quizzes (9 quizzes In-Person. 1 quiz online. 10 points each) | 15 % |
| 1 Unit I Presentation | 50 % |
| 1 Crime Scene Investigation (Individual Report, Group Report, and Presentation) |
| 1 Group Project & Presentation (In-Person. End of semester) |
| 1 The Owl Project PPT & Presentation (1 Per Group) | 10% |
| 1 Final Exam (In-Person. Comprehensive) | 25 % |
| Total | 100% |

* QUIZZES: Nine (9) quizzes will be given in person with a value of 10 pts. each. Quizzes will generally cover the material from the lab completed the previous week and material covered during that day. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of the lab session each week (in the first 10 minutes of the lab). No make-up quizzes will be given. There is only one attempt per quiz and no quiz grades will be dropped. Only one (1) quiz will be online (10 points).
* UNIT PRESENTATIONS/GRADES: Semester content will cover three units of study plus an independent group project at the end of the semester. Unit assessments will include activities, presentations, models, case studies, and group research activities.
* INDEPENDENT GROUP PROJECT (end of semester): Students will spend the last weeks in lab working on an independent group project. These projects will be a group effort and all experimentation will take place in the Biol. 1082 laboratory. Each group is expected to design and complete a scientific experiment using the knowledge and skills gained throughout the semester. The lab instructor will give specific details about the requirements as the time draws near. The project completion, written paper, and presentation have a value of 100 pts.
* SEMESTER EXAM: A 100 point comprehensive in-person exam will be administered during regular lab times. Content will cover the entire semester to this point. Students are encouraged to review notes taken during class, quizzes, lab exercises and any other information your instructor has presented. A review sheet will be given to students at least one week before the exam.
* NOTE: You must be present during your regularly scheduled lab time in order to take this exam.
* CANVAS: The syllabus, lab schedule and other content material will be posted on Canvas. Your instructor will also be posting grades on Canvas. Please login to Canvas as soon as possible to make sure you know how to access your grades and the course materials.

**Returning to Fall 2025 Academic Activities:**

* Group presentations may be adjusted, rescheduled, or canceled based on community health or weather conditions. We will provide instructions in Canvas.
* **Attendance:** Students are expected to attend class meetings regularly and to abide by the attendance policy established for the course. It is important that you communicate with the Professor and the instructional team prior to being absent, so you, the professor, and the instructional team can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor and instructional team if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.
* **Attendance:**

The laboratory supervisor will notify the Professor of Record if the student has excessive absences (3 absences) and a notification or report will be sent to the Dean of Students Office.

* **Instructional Mode:** Course delivery in accordance with information in the registration system. Course delivery through alternative methods, such as Zoom or BigBlue Button, is only permitted when informed of a change to remote due to health conditions.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 2: Biology for Educators (BIOL1082) Life Sciences - Rm #A111 FALL 2025** | | | |
| **Required** **Lab Manuals**. Students should print the laboratory manual that is on Canvas and bring it to the lab weekly. Additionalcourse materials will be posted under the CONTENT tab on Canvas. | | | |
| **Dates**  **Sec. 310 and 311** | **UNIT** | **TOPIC** | **Assessments** |
| Thursday, August 21 | Lab 1 | TOPIC 1: The Scientific Method  First in-person meeting of the semester. See you in LIFE A111 | Quiz #1 (Lab. Safety) |
| Thursday, August 28 | Lab 2  **UNIT I: LIFE** | Introduction to Unit I; TOPIC 2: Review of the Microscope; TOPIC 3: Cell Structure & Diversity | Quiz #2 |
| Thursday, Sept. 4 | Lab 3  Unit I: continued | TOPIC 4: Cell Transport | Quiz#3 |
| Thursday, Sept. 11 | Lab 4  UNIT I: continued | Group Presentations -- UNIT I; Vernier activity | Quiz #4  Unit I Presentation |
| Thursday, Sept. 18 | Lab 5  UNIT I: continued | Introduction to Unit II; TOPIC 5: DNA-The Molecule of Heredity; TOPIC 6: Learning to Use the Micropipettor; Crime Scene overview; begin evidence analysis | Quiz #5 |
| Thursday, Sept. 25 | Lab 6  **UNIT II: LIVING LEGACY & BIOTECHNOLOGY** | Analysis of DNA (TOPIC 7: Biotechnology-DNA Fingerprinting) and other evidence | Quiz #6 |
| Thursday, October 2 | Lab 7  UNIT II: continued | TOPIC 8: Autosomal Human Traits and Patterns of Inheritance; Complete evidence analyses  Experiments: blood, karyotypes, electrophoresis, powders, fingerprints, and DNA digestion\* | Quiz #7 |
| Thursday, October 9 | Lab 8  UNIT II: continued | Experiments: Ink, blue liquids, DNA digestion, and gel interpretation. | Quiz #8 |
| Thursday, October 16 | Lab 9  Unit II: continued | Group Presentations--UNIT II | Unit II Presentation  Crime Scene Quiz  Quiz #9 |
| Thursday, October 23 | Lab 10  **UNIT III: Group Projects** | Ecology, Ecosystems, and Communities | Owl PowerPoint with Recorded Presentation |
| Thursday, October 30 | Lab 11  UNIT III: continued | Introduction to research project and preliminary activity |  |
| Thursday, Nov. 6 | Lab 12  UNIT III: continued | Research Project Extension Activity |  |
| Thursday, Nov. 13 | Lab 13  UNIT III: Group Presentations | Group Presentations and Final Lab Exam Review | GP Presentation  Quiz 10 (Canvas) |
| Thursday, Nov. 20 | Lab 14  Final Exam | Final Lab Exam: Practicum (In-Person Only) |  |

Holidays:

Labor Day – September 1, 2025

Thanksgiving Break – November 24 to November 30

This schedule is tentative and subject to change at the discretion of the Lab Supervisor.

This syllabus was updated on August 5, 2025.