

Biology for Science Majors II

Biology 1720-501 Fall 2025

Instructor Information:

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Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 am - 11:00 am in a huddle room at Frisco Landing- exact location TBD

Lecture Hours and Place: T/Th 12:30pm to 1:50pm in FRLD 260

Objectives: This course is designed for science majors who are interested in general biology. We will emphasize both plant and animal biology, physiology, and ecology during this semester. The intent of the course is to provide a strong background in general biology that will allow you to take higher-level courses in the life sciences.

Canvas: Check Canvas regularly, it will contain updates to the syllabus and files of the basic slides used in class. It is recommended that you go to Canvas before class to print out the pdf files and bring them to the lecture as note taking aids or have them available on a device to utilize during class.

Recommended Text: Biology in Focus, Campbell, 4th edition by Urry, Cain, Minorsky, Orr, and Hull. Pearson Mastering access is not required.

Grading:

Quizzes: 80 total points are from multiple-choice quizzes; these will be administered in Canvas. They will cover material presented in lecture over the corresponding chapter(s). Only the highest 10 of about 13 will be counted. The same criteria for missed exams will be followed for quizzes.

Attendance/Participation: iClicker will be utilized for attendance and in-class questions/activities. You will receive **20 total participation points** if you do not miss/participate in more than three lectures. This means that you can miss three lectures with no grade penalty. If you miss 3 or less lectures and are participating in class (iClicker or group activities/discussions), you will receive these 20 points. If you have more than three unexcused absences, you will receive a 0/20 for the attendance/participation grade.

It is difficult to obtain all the information presented in lectures unless you get it “first hand.” I cannot stress enough the importance of attending class, paying attention, and taking notes during class. Historically, I have found that if you do not attend class, you should expect to do poorly in this course. Lectures may deviate from the textbook and from material made available on Canvas as seen fit by your instructor.

Exams: You will take three examinations during the semester and a final exam. The final exam is not comprehensive but will cover the material presented after the third exam. Each exam will be worth 100 points for a total of **400 exam points** in the course. No exam grades will be dropped from the calculation of the final grade. Grades will be assigned according to the point system listed below.

The quizzes, participation, and exams provide a total of 500 points that you can earn for the semester. Grades will be assigned according to the point system listed below.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
A	450 and above
B	400 to 449

C	350 to 399
D	300 to 349
F	299 and below

Missed Exams: Exams may only be missed under extenuating circumstances or university sanctioned event, and must be accompanied by *evidence of those circumstances*. In these cases, student options for accounting for the missed exam are at the professor's discretion. Incompletes will only be assigned under **extenuating circumstances** when a student has a C average or above on the exams taken to date.

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences: According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. All exams are to be taken independently. All notes and books should be stowed away during exams. In addition, all other electronics must be turned off and stowed during the exam. Cheating in any form will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive a zero for that grade opportunity and a note will be placed in their permanent file. If caught cheating twice they will be permanently removed from the course. If you provide me with a doctor's note excusing you from an assignment, I will call the office to confirm. Forging and/or modification of a doctor's note will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office, will go on your permanent record, and will result in disciplinary action.

GenAI Policies: Throughout the semester, you may use specific Generative AI (GenAI) tools for certain assignments, with guidance on responsible use. These assignments help build ethical resilience and GenAI literacy, preparing you for careers in a GenAI-oriented workforce. I use GenAI to streamline tasks, draft activities, draft syllabi, and build study guides. I will always disclose how I use GenAI, and I expect the same from you. In accordance with the UNT Honor Code, unauthorized use of GenAI tools is prohibited. Using GenAI content without proper credit, substituting your own work with GenAI, or relying on them to complete assignments undermines the learning process and violates UNT academic integrity policy. If you're unsure whether something is allowed, please seek clarification.

UNT FERPA Policies: The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) protects students educational records (grades and more) and prevents UNT employees from sharing this information with other individuals. Even if the student has provided written consent to waive FERPA protection to educational records for specific individuals (ex. parent), I will not discuss a students' grades, performance, or other educational record information with anyone but the student.

Acceptable Student Behavior: Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct.

ADA Accommodation Statement: UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. 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 a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students 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 ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

Incomplete: An incomplete (I) grade is given only during the last one-fourth of a semester and only if a student is: (1) passing the course; (2) has a justifiable reason why the class cannot be completed on schedule;

and (3) arranges with the instructor to finish the course at a later date. All work must be completed within the time specified by the instructor (not to exceed one year after taking the course). An incomplete may be requested starting April 8th.

Academic Support & Student Services: UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- UNT Care Team (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care>)
- UNT Psychiatric Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center/services/psychiatry>)
- Individual Counseling (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling>)

Additional Student Support Services

- Registrar (<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration>)
- Financial Aid (<https://financialaid.unt.edu/>)
- Student Legal Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-legal-services>)
- Career Center (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/career-center>)
- Multicultural Center (<https://edo.unt.edu/multicultural-center>)
- Counseling and Testing Services (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services>)
- Pride Alliance (<https://edo.unt.edu/pridealliance>)
- UNT Food Pantry (<https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources/food-pantry>)

BIOL 1720-501 Lecture Schedule, Fall 2025

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Reading	Quiz
1	T	8/19	Introduction, Form and Function, Homeostasis	32 (32.1, 32.3)	1
	Th	8/21	Animal Nutrition and Metabolism	33	
2	T	8/26	Nervous System and Senses	37, 38	2
	Th	8/28	Nervous System and Senses	37, 38	
3	T	9/2	Hormones and the Endocrine System	32 (32.2)	3
	Th	9/4	Muscles	39	
4	T	9/9	Muscles	39	4
	Th	9/11	Respiratory System	34 (34.5-34.7)	
5	T	9/16	Overflow/Review		
	Th	9/18	Exam 1		
6	T	9/23	Circulatory System	34 (34.1-34.4)	5
	Th	9/25	Osmoregulation and excretion	32 (32.4, 32.5)	
7	T	9/30	Immune system	35	6
	Th	10/2	Immune system	35	
8	T	10/7	Reproduction and Development	36	7
	Th	10/9	Overflow/Review		
9	T	10/14	Exam 2		8
	Th	10/16	Viruses, Bacteria and Archaea, Protists, & Fungi	17, 24, 25, 26 (26.2)	
10	T	10/21	Plant Diversity	26 (26.1, 26.3-26.5)	9
	Th	10/23	Plant Form and Function	28	
11	T	10/28	Angiosperm Reproduction	30	10
	Th	10/30	Plant Nutrition, Resource Acquisition and Transport	29	
12	T	11/4	Plant Responses to Internal and External Signals	31	
	Th	11/6	Overflow/Review		
13	T	11/11	Exam 3		11
	Th	11/13	Population Ecology	40	
14	T	11/18	Ecological Communities	41	
	Th	11/20	Ecosystems and Energy	42	
15	M-F	11/24-11/28	No Class: Thanksgiving break		
16	T	12/2	Conservation Biology	43	12
	Th	12/4	Review for final exam		
	F		<i>Reading Day- No University Classes</i>		
			Final Exam Week- Exact Date/time TBD		

Schedule is tentative and may change without notice