

Biology 10: Introduction to Biology  
Section 44955  
Sierra College  
Online Course



Contact Information:

Keely Carroll

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Emails will be checked daily and during office hours.

Office Location (On Campus): V-322A

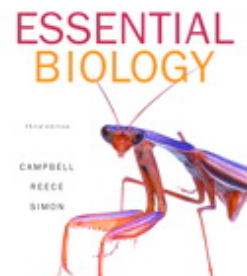
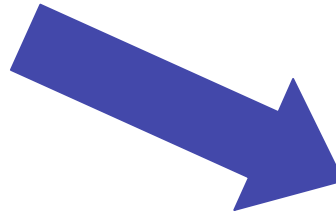
Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 11-12pm

Tuesday and Thursday 10-11am

Also By Appointment

**What you will need for this class:**

Textbook: Campbell, Reece, Simon. 2007. Essential Biology. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.  
Pearson Publishing.



**Course Description:**

Designed specifically for non-life science majors, covering organization of life, cellular processes, genetics and evolution, diversity of life, ecology, and the impact of humans on, and interdependence with, the environment. Will meet life science requirements in most general education programs. Does not fulfill laboratory science requirement. Not open to those who have completed Bio. Sci. 1, Bio Sci 56 or Bio. Sci. 11.

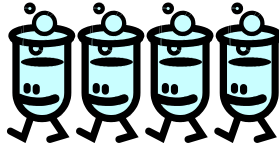
Make sure you are in the right class, don't make the mistake of taking the wrong one. See your counselor.

**So what will we learn in this class?**

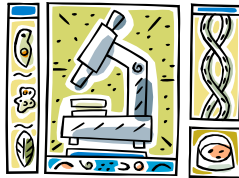
- The main steps of the scientific method and the differences between a hypothesis and a theory.
- Recognize the levels of organization of life from the molecular level to the ecosystem level.
- How to describe the characteristics of the main organic compounds and know the roles of organic molecules in living organisms.
- The cell theory.
- The parts of a cell.
- The processes of photosynthesis and respiration and their roles in the ecosystem.
- Cellular reproduction (you used to be a single cell!)
- Mendelian genetics and heredity
- The structure of DNA and its role in living organisms.
- How to go from DNA to protein.
- Evolutionary theory and how species arise.
- The early origins of life on earth.
- How ecosystems function and how organisms interact with each other and the environment.
- How humans have an effect on the earth.

**Blackboard:**

This is an online class which means that there is a website for this class. To access the Blackboard site go to the campus website [www.sierracollege.edu](http://www.sierracollege.edu), scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the Blackboard link. Clicking on the link will take you to the Blackboard login page. Your login is the same as your MySierra account login and your password will be Student (capital S) if you have never logged in before. If you have used Blackboard before, then your password should be the same as last semester. On the Blackboard site you will find lectures, websites, helpful animations and a running point total for the class and other useful material. Please note that I am not responsible for any technical problems that you encounter when using Blackboard or for when Blackboard goes down!!! If you are having problems, contact me and I will try to help.

**How much time per week will this class take:**

The traditional sections of this class, meaning ones in which you come to class and sit and listen to lecture each day, occur twice per week for a hour and 20 minutes for each class meeting. That is just in class time and does not account for study time! Typically online courses require more work than traditional courses but they do allow the flexibility to do the work more on your own schedule. Figure that you will spend, at a minimum, of 10-12 hours per week on this class, reading the text, reading the lectures, viewing videos and visiting websites. That does not include extra time that will need to be spent on assignments. You will need to log onto Blackboard and view the materials and work on your Blogs or be reading Blogs at least 4 days per week. Which four days you log on is up to you. Don't procrastinate, you will never catch up if you wait until the last minute.

**How to take this online class:**


On the Blackboard site you will find a folder labeled with the material that is to be covered for that topic i.e. a folder entitled "genetics" or "DNA Replication". In that folder you will find the lecture notes for that week, animations that help to illustrate the topics, which can be very helpful in an online class and there may also be websites that help to illustrate the topics covered in the lecture notes. You will need to visit the websites and complete brief written assignments on each. To view the animations that are contained in the folders you will need to make sure that you have shockwave installed on your computer. Shockwave can be downloaded at <http://www.adobe.com/shockwave/welcome/> . Assignments will be contained in a separate folder and broken down week-by-week. You must make sure that your email is current with the college. All emailed announcements will be sent via Blackboard so if your email is not current, you will not get the email.

When you log into Blackboard you will see a screen that looks like this. Along the right side of the screen you will see a series of green buttons that pertain to different areas within the site. The first button is the syllabus button where you will find a copy of this document. The second button contains a letter to give you a feeling of how the class will flow during the semester. The third button contains a document called an assignment tracker. This document will contain a checklist of all of the assignments that you will need to complete this semester. If you click on the assignments button, it will take you to a list of folders that contain your assignments broken down week-by-week.

- Syllabus
- Letter to Students
- Assignment Tracker
- Assignments
- Announcements
- Course Information
- Course Documents
- Communication
- Tools
- Staff Information

- Communication
- Course Tools
- Course Map
- Control Panel
- Refresh
- Detail View

FA09: INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY (CC-44955) (FA090: BIO.SCI.101.44955) > ANNOUNCEMENTS



VIEW TODAY   VIEW LAST 7 DAYS   VIEW LAST 30 DAYS   VIEW ALL

**August 01, 2008 - August 08, 2008**

No announcements found.

Blackboard Academic Suite™  
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Accessibility Information can be found at <http://access.blackboard.com>.

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FA09: INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY (CC-44955) (FA090: BIO.SCI.101.44955) > ASSIGNMENTS

### Assignments


- Assignments for Sept 1st-7th
- Assignments for Sept 8th-14th
- Assignments for Sept 15th-21st
- Assignments for Sept 22nd-28th


Those assignments will include your critical thinking assignments, your Blog topics for the week and any one minute papers you might have.


The communication button is a quick link to my email. The tools button will give you access to a running total for your grade in the course, as well as, a glossary that I have put together for the course. The course documents button will take you to a series of buttons that correspond to the different topics covered in class.


- [Syllabus](#)
- [Letter to Students](#)
- [Assignment Tracker](#)
- [Assignments](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Course Information](#)
- [Course Documents](#)
- [Communication](#)
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## Course Documents

 [Introduction to Biology and the Scientific Method](#)

 [Essential Chemistry](#)

 [Molecules of Life](#)

 [Cells and Cellular Membranes](#)

Each folder in the course documents page contains the material for that topic. If you click on one of those folders, you will find the materials for that topic.

- [Syllabus](#)
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## Essential Chemistry




Fun With Chemistry



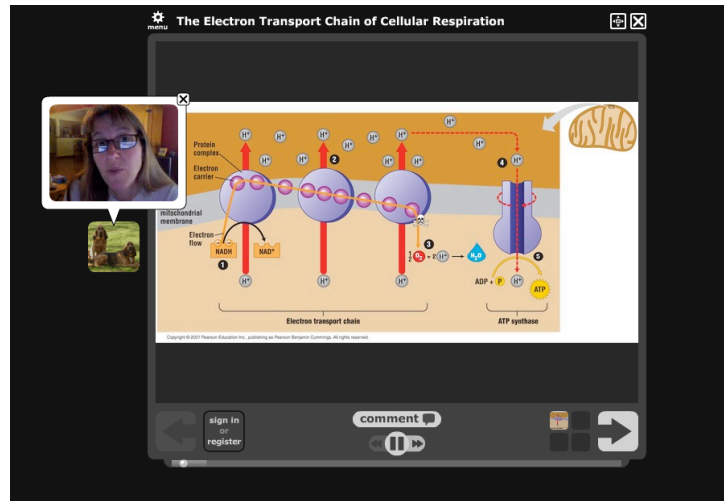
Not all of chemistry is boring!!!

 [Lecture](#)

 [Helpful Animations](#)

So if you click on the essential chemistry folder, inside you will find a YouTube video on the topic, a folder that contains the lecture material for that week and another folder that contains helpful animations on the subject. Lectures will be available both as text and as a podcast. Sierra College has its very own iTunesU site (though it is not available to the general public). When podcasts are available for the lectures you will find a link posted in the lectures folder. Occasionally in a folder you might find a link to what is called a VoiceThread. A VoiceThread is a way that I can actually post pictures from the text and explain them to you at the same time. When a VoiceThread is available, a link will be provided and it will take you to a site that looks like this:

(Yes, that's a really dorky picture of me). The VoiceThread should begin as soon as it loads but if it does not, click the play button at the bottom of the screen. You do not have to sign up for VoiceThread to access the site.



## Assignments

### One Minute Papers:

Periodically I will ask you to write a one minute paper on a topic just covered in class or on a website that you have visited. These papers are just what they sound like. You will be given a topic to write on for one minute and you can use your notes to write the paper. These will occur periodically during the semester. There are a total of 100 points available for the one minute papers. Each paper will be worth a percentage of the total points possible. So if we do two, each one will be worth 50 points; if we do 10, then each one will be worth 10 points.

**100 Points Possible**

### Critical Thinking:

You will need to complete a total of 13 Critical Thinking Assignments for the semester. Topics will be provided. For each assignment you will need to critically analyze the problem and write a minimum one to two-page assessment of the situation and your opinion on the subject. It is important that your paper reflect a critical assessment of the situation and demonstrate real thought. One critical thinking paper is due each week by the Sunday of that week. These must be emailed to me using the rules on emailing listed below. Each assignment is worth 10 points and you may drop two of these assignments for the semester.

**110 Points Possible**

### Exams:

The exams for this class will be taken on Blackboard. They will require you to do some critical thinking. They will consist of multiple choice, essay, fill-in the blank, true/false and diagram labeling. There will be a total of 4 exams each worth 75 points each. There are **NO** make-ups for the exams but you may drop one exam score for the semester. Exams must be completed individually; no collaborative work allowed on exams, however, you may use your notes on the exam. (Note that if you get caught cheating on an exam, you may not drop that score; all exams will be checked for plagiarism). Exams have a two hour time limit each. Exams must be completed by Sunday at midnight (with the exception of exam four which must be completed by Friday at midnight) of the week that they were assigned. I am not responsible for Blackboard failures or issues but you will need to email me if you have problems. If you have a problem with an exam and are taking it 5 minutes before the deadline, I will not be able to help you!

**225 Points Possible**

**Quizzes:**

By the second week of class we will start having quizzes that cover the previous week's material. Quizzes will be posted on Monday and included in the assignments folder that contains your assignments for that week. Quizzes are taken on Blackboard and must be completed by Sunday at midnight. The quizzes will serve as comprehension checks during the semester and will help you to succeed on the exams. There will be a total of 7 quizzes, worth 20 points each and you can drop one quiz for the summer.

**120 Points Possible****Blogs:**

You will be required to keep and maintain a Blog in this class. If you have taken an online class before, you can think of the Blog as a sort of discussion board. Since this class will contain around 30 students, it would be crazy to expect you all to read every other student's Blog, for that reason I will be breaking you down into Blog groups of approximately 10 students each. You will be given a topic or two to Blog about on your Blog site each week. You will also then be expected to read the Blogs of the other students in your Blog groups and post at least one response to two other students in your group. You will receive 6 points each week for your Blog post (1 per week) and 3 points for each response (up to two) that you post to the Blogs of other students in your group. There will be 15 weeks that you will post to your Blog (at least) (except Thanksgiving) and each week is worth 12 points. Instructions for your Blog can be found on the Blackboard site.

**180 Points Possible****735 Points Possible****Extra Credit****Extra Credit:**

There is a total of 15 points available for extra credit. To get extra credit, you will need to access Blackboard three times during the course of the semester and calculate your grade for the class. You then need to email me your current grade in the class by the dates listed in the schedule. You can receive 5 points per email and can send in three emails for a total of 15 points.

**15 Points Possible****15 Points Possible  
(Extra Credit)**

**Overall there are a total of 600 Points available for this class. Grading will be on a straight 100-90, 89-80, 79-70% scale.**

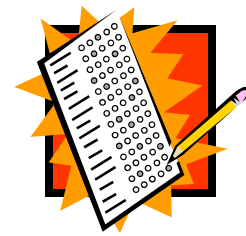
### Assignment Tracker:

Included in this syllabus is a table which you can print and post in a prominent location to help you to keep track of your assignments, quizzes and exams. You will probably notice when looking at the tracker that all of your assignments seem to be due on the same day. Well, keep in mind that all of your due dates are “Due By” dates, which means that those dates are the last possible day to complete the assignment or to take the quiz or exam. You are welcome and encouraged to complete the assignments any time you wish prior to those dates. Before you decide to take an exam or quiz make sure that you are familiar with the material covered in the assessment that is listed in the Tracker prior to taking the assessment. Please note that due dates for Blog topics and one-minute papers are not included in the tracker since they are on-going assignments and the number for each week may change.

### Academic Dishonesty:

Any act of cheating will result in a 0 for that exam/assessment/assignment and the incident will be reported. Any repeated act of cheating may lead to dismissal from the class and/or college. It is the student’s responsibility to know the campus cheating policy listed as the Sierra College Board Policy 5515 which can be found at

<http://www.sierracollege.edu/AboutUs/board/policies/pdfs/Chapter%20Five/Board%20Policy%205515.pdf> . (It can be found at the end of this syllabus). You should also pick up a copy of “Student Rights and Responsibilities” from the Campus Life Office located next to the bookstore. You may not drop assignments that have received a zero for plagiarism or cheating.



### Drop Policy:

Once you are enrolled in this class, you will receive the letter grade earned unless **you** formally drop the class. The last possible day to drop this class is September 6<sup>th</sup> and the last day to withdraw is November 4<sup>th</sup>.



### Email Policy:

You will need to email one minute papers to me but know that **I am not responsible for lost emails**. If you send me an email, send one to yourself as well, that way if I do not receive the original email then you can forward me a date and time stamped copy of the email. If you are sending me an assignment, you will need to put “Your Name: biology 10 critical thinking assignment” in the subject heading. I only look at the assignments once per week and when I see an email subject like this I will place it into an email file for student assignments. You are also responsible for keeping an archive of all of the emails that you have sent me. My email account is not big enough to keep the emails from all of my students for the entire semester. All one minute paper assignments must be contained within the text of the email or be attached as an .rtf document. **NEVER** use the digital



dropbox on Blackboard. Critical Thinking Assignments will be sent to me directly through Blackboard. You will just need to click on the assignment in the assignment folder to send me the assignment. If you just want to email me a question, please include “Your Name: biology 10 question” in the subject heading, that way I know to open it immediately. It is imperative that you follow these emails rule so that we can communicate well!

**How to succeed in this class:**

KEEP ON TOP OF THE WORK! That is the number one thing. Also, do not wait until the last minute to cram for an exam (even though you can use your notes on the exams). Pick a place to study and only study there, this will help keep you on task. Get the phone number of at least one other person in class and meet with them at least once a week to go over your notes to ensure that they are complete. Get to know your fellow students and form study groups. If you have questions or are having difficulty, see me, that is what I am here for. I can't help you raise your grade if you wait until the last minute to see me. Call me, email me, or make an appointment to meet.

Remember, if a certain study technique isn't working for you change it!!! Contact me as soon as you are having trouble in class!

### Tentative Schedule

Week of:	Topic (*Denotes Quiz Due By Sunday at Midnight)	Chapter
Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Biology Scientific Method	1
Sept 1 <sup>st</sup>	(Monday Holiday) Essential Chemistry	2
Sept 8 <sup>th</sup>	Molecules of Life Cells (*)	3/4
Sept 15 <sup>th</sup>	Energy <b>Exam One To Be Completed By Sept 21<sup>st</sup> at Midnight</b>	5
Sept 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Photosynthesis Respiration	7
Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>	Respiration (*) Fermentation	6
Oct 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mitosis/Meiosis <b>Exam Two To Be Completed By Oct 12<sup>th</sup> at Midnight</b>	8
Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	Mitosis/Meiosis Genetics	8
Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Genetics (*)	9
Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	DNA Structure and Function Protein Synthesis	10
Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Protein Synthesis (*) Gene Regulation <b>Exam Three To Be Completed By Nov 9<sup>th</sup> at Midnight</b> Evolution	11/13
Nov 10 <sup>th</sup>	Evolution	13
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Origin and Diversity of Life (*) Microbes	14/15/16
Nov 24 <sup>th</sup>	Microbes Plants	16
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Plants (*) Animals Ecology	17
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Ecology (*) <b>Exam Four To Be Completed By Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at Midnight (Note that this is a Friday Night)</b>	18/19

### Biology 10: Assignment Tracker

Due Date	Assignment Title	Score
By Sept 7 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #1	/10
By Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 1	/20
By Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #2	/10
By Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #3	/10
By Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> At Midnight	□ Exam One Due	/75
By Sept 28 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #4	/10
By Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 2	/20
By Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #5	/10
By Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #6	/10
By Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Exam Two Due	/75
By Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #7	/10
By Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 3	/20
By Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #8	/10
By Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #9	/10
By Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 4	/20
By Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> at Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #10	/10

By Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Exam Three Due	/75
By Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #11	/10
By Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 5	/20
By Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #12	/10
By Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 6	/20
By Dec 7 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Critical Thinking Assignment #13	/10
By Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Quiz 7	/20
By Dec 12 <sup>th</sup> At Midnight	□ Exam Four Due	/75
Extra Credit Date TBA	□ Email me your grade	/5
Extra Credit Date TBA	□ Email me your grade	/5
Extra Credit Date TBA	□ Email me your grade	/5

## **SIERRA COLLEGE BOARD POLICY No. 5515**

### **Honesty in Academic Work**

Date Adopted: 7/12/1994

Date Revised: 1/13/2004

Date Reviewed: 1/13/2004

References: Education Code Section 76224

Success in college, as in other aspects of life, demands absolute honesty at all times. Sierra College expects that students, as well as faculty, will observe the principles of ethical conduct in their treatment of fellow members of the academic community and in their accomplishment of academic work. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with these principles as they pertain to each course in which they enroll. When completing assignments, students should be careful to follow the principles of ethical conduct. Students who are uncertain about the ethics involved in particular courses or assignments should make it a point to talk with instructors. Proven

misconduct or violation of these principles, will be disciplined as set forth in this policy.

The instructor has absolute authority over issuing the final course grade (Education Code, Section 76224).

It is important to remember that the principles of academic honesty in no way restrict free inquiry and the open exchange of diverse, and sometimes unpopular, ideas. These the college encourages, for they are vital to learning and the pursuit of reason and truth.

Students who fail to comply with this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as described in Administrative Procedure 5515.

See Administrative Procedures 5500 and 5515, and Board Policies 4220 and 5500.