** BSC 1005 SYLLABUS**

**School: Science Department  
Course Number: BSC 1005 – 20202-1V-B-009  
Course Name: Life Science (P)  
Credit Hours: 3 credit hours  
Length of Course: 6 Weeks (until April 22, 2020)  
Prerequisite: Score into college-level English and Reading on placement test.**

**About your Instructor**

Dr. Christopher D. Krause, Ph.D.; [ckrause@irsc.edu](mailto:ckrause@irsc.edu)

<http://ckrause-irsc.weebly.com/>

<https://youtu.be/T-FmQZaLQRk>

Office Hours: Mon: 1100AM - 330PM, (virtual; by e-mail)

Tue: 100PM - 200PM, Main Campus, N212

Wed: 200PM - 600PM, Main Campus, N212

Thur: 200AM - 230PM, (virtual; by e-mail)

Other times: by appointment (in person or Blackboard Collaborate)

**Course Description**

This introductory level course is designed for non-science majors. It illustrates the applications of the scientific method of problem solving within the field of life science. Topics of the investigation include properties of life, chemistry of life, structure and function of cells, cell reproduction, plant structure and function, and representative human systems.

**Course Rationale**

This course will benefit students by exposing them to the basic principles of the life sciences. Biomedical and biotechnological advances continue to change the world we live in at an amazing pace. This class provides insights into how cells work, what genes are, and how all of this information is organized into cells and organisms (like humans). This foundation of basic biological concepts will help make students better informed in a day and age where news topics can range from genetically modified food to human genome sequencing.

This course provides an emphasis on the scientific method as a means to solve problems in the life sciences, and in everyday life. As such, the course helps students to develop problem solving and analytical skills based on the scientific method, which will be valuable in this course, and in other academic and professional endeavors.

The course is divided into 6 modules that groups the chapters together based on similar biological concepts.

* **Module 1** is an introduction to the scientific method, and sets the tone for all of the remaining chapters.
* **Module 2** provides an introduction to basic chemistry as it is related to life science, then continues on to explain the basic chemical reactions that occur inside a cell, using nutrition as an example.
* **Module 3** begins a further analysis of cellular activities. Cell division, cancer and how genes are inherited are all discussed.
* **Module 4** begins an important unit that covers the fundamental concepts of evolution from DNA to entire populations of organisms. This module uses genetic engineering to explain how our DNA functions, and antibiotic resistance to describe the process of natural selection.
* **Module 5** begins the section on the importance of biodiversity and how organisms interact in ecosystems. This theme is further looked at by exploring the Indian River Lagoon’s ecosystems and then provides an overview of native Florida plants.
* **Module 6** completes our survey of the life science by looking at human biology. The module explores the major organ systems of the human body. The anatomy and physiology is discussed in terms of biological functions, and in terms of health and disease.

**Program Learning Objectives**

Through the IRSC General Education courses you will learn the following important skills that will help you succeed in college, career, and life.

* Communicate with clarity and precision.
* Use technology to acquire, organize, and convey information.
* Apply critical thinking through problem solving.

**Course Learning Objectives**

The student will be able to develop problem solving, analytical, and communication skills based on the scientific method to provide the foundation for lifelong learning and career development.

The student will able to identify major biological concepts and demonstrate how these are connected within various and the biological and physical sciences.

The student will be able to identify careers and professions available in the biological sciences.

The student will be able to employ technology, to research and acquire information relevant to the biological science.

**Course Resources**

**Textbook(s)** – any of these will suffice for this course. However, note that the chapter numbers of the unabridged editions will NOT correspond with chapter numbers in the modules of this course, that are based on the abridged edition. Regardless, the chapter titles will be the nearly identical, and can guide you to the right chapter.

**Abridged - (available at IRSC bookstore):**

Biology: Science for Life with Physiology, 2nd Custom Edition for IRSC, Belk & Maier, 2016

ISBN-13: 978-1-323-14982-9

**Non-abridged - (available through non-IRSC online retailers)**

Biology: Science for Life with Physiology, 5th Edition, Belk & Maier, 2016

ISBN-13: 978-0-321-92221-2

Biology: Science for Life with Physiology, 6th Edition, Belk & Maier, 2016

ISBN-13: 978-0-134-55543-0

**Resources:** Additional resources will be referenced in the modules, where they will be used.

**Course Requirements**

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course and instructional units/modules. Each week you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, readings, research, etc.

**Grades and Grading Scale**

Assignment of letter grades is based on a percentage of points earned. The letter grade will correspond with the following points. All course requirements must be completed before a grade is assigned.

620 – 558 = A

557 – 496 = B

495 – 434 = C

433 – 372 = D

Less than 371 = F

**Note:** Calculated grades will NOT be rounded to the next whole number

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment Name** | **Point Value/Percent of Course Grade** |
| Discussion Board | 10 points |
| Six Projects 10 each | 60 points |
| Quizzes 15 each X 10 | 150 points |
| Five Exams 100 each – 1 dropped  (Proctored Exam I is not dropped) | 400 points |

**Schedule of Activities QM**

The schedule will be located in the Schedule of Activities link in the course control panel.

**Course Guidelines**

**Online Course**

This is an online course and therefore there will not be any face-to-face class sessions. All assignments and course interactions will utilize Internet technologies. Online classes require a proctored exam at an assessment center.

**Communicating with the Instructor**

When questions arise during the course of this class, please remember to check these three sources for an answer:

1. Course syllabus;
2. Announcements in Blackboard; and
3. The “Ask the Instructor” discussion board

If you cannot find an answer to your question, post your question to the “Ask the Instructor” discussion board. Feel free to e-mail your instructor, too. The “Ask the Instructor” discussion board can be answered to the benefit of all students by either your fellow students who know the answer to your question or the instructor. You are encouraged to answer questions from other students in the discussion forum when you know the answer to a question in order to help provide timely assistance.

If you have questions of a personal nature such as relating a personal emergency, questioning a grade on an assignment, or something else that needs to be communicated privately, please contact the instructor via the course e-mail. Please allow 24/48 hours for the instructor to respond.

**All instructor correspondence should be conducted within your course email.**

**Attendance/Participation**

*Preparation* for class means completing all study activities required for that week. *Attendance* in an online course means logging into the Learning Management System (Blackboard) on a regular basis and participating in the all of activities that are posted in the course.

**Studying and Preparation Time**

The course requires you to spend time preparing and completing assignments. For **every credit hour** you should expect to spend at minimum of three (3) hours working on the course. Therefore, a 3-credit course would require approximately 9 hours of time, per week.

**Examination Guidelines**

IRSC requires some proctored examination(s) for fully online classes. Each instructor will indicate their requirements on which exams will be proctored. The proctored exams will be taken at the IRSC Assessment Centers.

**BSC 1005 requires Exam 1 to be a proctored exam.** It must be taken at the IRSC Assessment Center, and will not be dropped. **Remote testing is considered on a case-by-case basis, and must be requested BEFORE classes begin.** Please note that remote testing sites may require an additional fee for testing.

IRSC requires that at least one examination be held at an Assessment Center. Assessment centers are available at all campuses. Students who cannot access any of the IRSC testing facilities must contact Assessment Services Manager Steven Daniello at (772) 462-7583 or [sdaniell@irsc.edu](mailto:sdaniell@irsc.edu) to make other arrangements.

A quick link to the Assessment Center (Testing) is located in Blackboard in the Institutional Resources section under IRSC Policies & Resources.

**Exam Make-up Requirements**

*NO MAKE-UP EXAMS will be given.* Student will be allowed to drop one 100-point exam grade during the semester; excepting the first exam, which will not be dropped. This should cover that unavoidable absence from one test period due to illness, emergency, or other. Students should “bank” this opportunity thereby allowing them to DROP one exam grade if they have taken all tests.

**Late or Missed Assignments**

All assignments must be finished and turned in to complete the course. Unless the instructor is notified BEFORE the assignment is due and provides an opportunity for the student to submit his/her assignment late, points may be taken off for a late assignment.

**Submitting Assignments**

All assignments, unless otherwise announced by the instructor, MUST be submitted via Blackboard. Each assignment will have a designated location for submission.

**Instructor Feedback**

Your instructor will provide feedback within 7 to 14 days.

**Withdrawal:**

Please contact the instructor if you feel that you need to withdraw. It might not be necessary. You will NOT be automatically withdrawn if you stop coming to

class. Withdrawal requires that you submit an official IRSC form which can be obtained at Educational Services or any campus office.

**Cheating**

Cheating of ANY kind WILL NOT be tolerated by this Department.

Anyone caught cheating will automatically receive an F for the semester (No withdrawls allowed for cheaters).

Anyone who witnesses this inexcusable behavior, and does not report it, is also considered to be guilty of improper conduct.

**Subject to change notice**

All material, assignments, and deadlines are subject to change with prior notice. It is your responsibility to stay in touch with your instructor, review the course site regularly, or communicate with other students, to adjust as needed if there is any change in the course.

**IRSC Resources**

Quick links to the Indian River State College’s resources and policies are listed in the Institutional Resources section of the course including:

IRSC Policies & Resources

* MyIRSC – Register for classes, view grades and financial aid awards
* Student Handbook & Student Handbook Reference Guide
* Advising
* Catalog
* Drop/Add
* Equity Statement
* Financial Aid
* Incomplete Grade
* IRSC Mission Statement
* Office of Student Disabilities
* Student Activities
* Student Success Services
* Testing Services
* Transcripts
* Update Personal Information
* Withdrawal Policy

**Academic Resources**

Quick links to the Indian River State College’s Academic Resources can be found in the Institutional Resources section in Blackboard. Quick links include:

* Academic Calendar
* Academic Support Center
* Academic Warning/
* Deficiency/Suspension
* Assessment/Examination Policy
* Graduation
* How to Succeed in this Course
* Incomplete Grade
* Netiquette Rules
* Student Responsibility
* Studying and Time Mgmt.
* Academic Resources

**Library & Research Paper Resources**

Quick links to the Indian River State College’s Library and Research Paper Resources can be found in the Institutional Resources section in Blackboard. Quick links include:

Library and Research Paper Information

* Library Link
* Course Specific Custom Library Guides
* Ask the Librarian (24/7)
* American Psychological Association Tutorial
* APA Guidelines
* MLA Guidelines
* CSE Guidelines
* Legal Citation
* Plagiarism Policy
* Writing a Research Paper

**Writing Expectations:**

All students should write at college level in all course communication and assignments. Please pay particular attention to the information listed below.

**Citation and Reference Style:**

Students should use the APA citation style unless otherwise directed by their instructor.

Quick links to Library information and reference styles are located in the Institutional Resources under the Library & Research Paper Information.

**Technical Requirements**

**IRSC Computer Requirements**

Students must have a reliable computer and Internet connection throughout the course. Quick links to the Indian River State College’s Blackboard Technical Information can be found in the Institutional Resources section in Blackboard. Quick links include:

* Essential Technical Skills Checklist
* Browser Support
* Blackboard Learn Mobile

**Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS)**

If you need assistance with Blackboard, please review the Blackboard Help Videos by clicking on the link provided on the course menu.

Note: The preferred browsers are Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox.

Blackboard LOG IN:

USERNAME: Student ID number (no dashes)

PASSWORD: IRSC web registration/pay pin

**Technical Support**

If you can’t find your answer within the Blackboard Help Videos section, visit the [Blackboard Help Center.](https://help.edusupportcenter.com/shplite/IRSC/home)

**Student Accessibility Services**

Indian River State College provides reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities through the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Office. The rights of students with disabilities which pertain to post-secondary education are provided under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. Students who wish to request an accommodation for a documented disability may contact Student Accessibility Services at 772-462-7808, 772-462-7782 or e-mail accessibilityservices@irsc.edu

**Syllabus Disclaimer**

The instructor views the course syllabus as an educational contract between the instructor and students. Every effort will be made to avoid changing the course schedule but the possibility exists that unforeseen events will make syllabus changes necessary. The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as deemed necessary. Students will be notified in a timely manner of any syllabus changes in the course Announcements or course e-mail.

If you are experiencing difficulty in your course and have already worked with your instructor to resolve the challenge but feel your issue needs additional attention, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/IRSCadmininfo> to access the appropriate contact information.

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