# WELCOME TO BIOL 1108, Principles of Biology II

Hello everyone! This course is designed for majors within a biology concentration, and serves as not only a pre-requisite to, but prepares you for upper-level biology courses. We will broadly cover biological topics in this course that focus mainly on the evolution of life, diversity of life, and interactions among living organisms (ecology).

# INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor:Joshua L. Clark

Office:Jones 126 (Main Campus) and CAM 213 (Camden Campus)

Office Hours: **Monday & Wednesday (Brunswick Campus):** 8:30 – 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM. **Tuesday and Thursday (Camden Campus):** 9:30 – 11:30 AM, 1:00 – 2:00 PM.

E-mail:jclark@ccga.edu

Expected Response Time: I generally respond no later than 24 hours on weekdays. If you email me after 9:00 PM, do not expect a reply until the next day. On weekends, response times may be up to 48 hours.

## Other pertinent information:

My office phone number is 912-279-5829. I prefer to be contacted through email, through the email listed above. Meetings outside of office hours should be scheduled by email.

# COURSE DESCRIPTION

3 Class Hours; 3 Credit Hour

This is the second course in a general biology sequence designed for majors in biology and related fields. This course begins with a review of phylogeny and diversity in all kingdoms. The second part of this course covers the functional anatomy and physiology of representative organisms. The third part of the course explores basic ecology and conservation biology.

## Prerequisites/Corequisites:

BIOL 1108L, Principles of Biology II Laboratory

# COURSE MATERIALS

Waymaker Biology for Majors II from Lumen Learning: In this course you will use Waymaker Biology for Majors II instead of a traditional textbook. Waymaker provides your course materials digitally inside insert your course’s D2L (Brightspace) webpage. You can access all readings, videos, a study plan, quizzes and other activities through the course’s D2L webpage.

**Directions for Students Purchasing Waymaker:**

Students are prompted to enter an activation code or online payment on your module quiz. Two quizzes will have a free pass, and from there you will need to purchase access to Waymaker.

1. **Purchase Online:** You can purchase Waymaker with a credit card for $33.45 when you access your first quiz in this course.
2. **Bookstore:** You can purchase a Waymaker access code from the school bookstore. Note that the bookstore price may be slightly higher than if you purchase online.

Video Instructions for Purchasing Waymaker: <https://youtu.be/ptfTkFv_V4s?si=Cqg4GEle-3fbMAEh>

# GETTING STARTED WITH WAYMAKER

Succeeding with Waymaker:Make sure you review the Succeeding With Waymaker Module. You will find videos that walk you through how to access Waymaker and how to complete your readings and assignments here: <https://youtu.be/f9_colFGIrw?si=EsescAaowMD8YCCv>

Study Plan Graded Participation:Here is a video explaining how the grade is calculated in the Study Plan: <https://youtu.be/FVZA1NVE0u0?si=ljE0LE6TlOz3CHnZ>

Additional information about Waymaker**:** Waymaker is different from other course materials in these ways:

* There is no separate textbook. Everything you need is in the D2L course webpage, including an e-Book.
* The study plans in Waymaker will provide guidance on where to focus your attention. As you complete self-check questions, Show What You Know sections in the study plans, and quizzes, you’ll get feedback on which areas you need to read and study more.
* You can take graded quizzes multiple times. Quizzes help you learn. You can take your quiz at least twice; only the higher score will be recorded.
* Instructors can see where students are struggling. I can see how you do on your quizzes and offer individualized help when you need it. I can also see if you are doing the self-checks and practice activities. I’m here to help you!

# OUTCOMES AND EVALUATION

## Course Learning Outcomes:

* Demonstrate core knowledge of principles of biology
* Understand the relationship between structure and function
* Have an understanding of the diversity of life and evolutionary relationships
* Demonstrate proper microscopy technique and other observational skills in the laboratory

## General Education/Program Learning Outcomes:

In addition to the course learning outcomes, this course will also address these College general education outcomes and competencies:

* Demonstrate the ability to solve problems and draw conclusions by analyzing situations into numeric, graphical, or symbolic form
* Demonstrate the ability to solve problems and draw conclusions by analyzing situations and explaining them in numeric, graphical or symbolic terms
* Demonstrate the knowledge of fundamental scientific concepts, the scientific method, and utilize laboratory procedures to observe natural phenomena

**This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the STEM area.**

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students’ broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

* How do I ask scientific questions or use data, mathematics, or technology to understand the universe?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

* Students will use the scientific method and laboratory procedures or mathematical and computational methods to analyze data, solve problems, and explain natural phenomena.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

* Inquiry and Analysis
* Problem-Solving
* Teamwork

Methods of Evaluation:

* Module Quizzes
  + A quiz is provided in each module to help the student learn and understand the concepts and ideas presented in each modules based on module specific learning outcomes. Questions are in multiple choice format, and some have more than one correct answer.
  + Module quizzes will open and close at specific times and dates and may be accessed through the D2L calendar or within each module (see schedule for availability dates). Each module quiz may be completed two times and in D2L this is called an attempt, so a maximum of two attempts is permitted for each quiz. Each time a quiz has been completed and submitted then it will be graded and posted in the D2L grade book automatically. Feedback after each attempt will be given to the student about concepts they do and do not understand. The quiz grade visible in the grade book is always the highest score achieved out of the two attempts completed. **Module quizzes are worth 20% of your total grade.**
* Module Study Plans
  + Module study plans represent the eText for this course. They are interactive with questions and videos to guide learning. As you complete these study plans, you’ll get feedback on which areas you need to read and study more.
  + Like quizzes, the module study plans must be completed by a set due date in the schedule (see attached tentative schedule), but you are recommended to complete them as we cover each chapter, following the assigned reading schedule. These module study plans are accessible through the D2L calendar, as well as within each module in the D2L content section. **Module study plans are worth 15% of your total grade.**
* In-Class Participation
  + At least once a week, during lectures, I may host an in-class activity through a website called Nearpod.com. This will require the use of an electronic device, like a laptop, tablet, or smartphone to class, so you can access this assignment. These activities relate to current curriculum that we are covering and may be posed in the form of a discussion question, pop-quiz, or short video review. Each in-class activity takes around 10-15 of in-class time.
  + These Nearpod activities will not only serve as your participation during class (**worth 15% of your grade**) but will also serve as a way for me to keep track of attendance – as students are expected to attend all classes regularly and missing one of these will impact your participation grade.
  + Joining one of these Nearpod lessons is pretty intuitive, but if you need a preview of how it works: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Olpzmdhl79g&ab_channel=TechnologyforTeachersandStudents>. Just make sure to enter your First and Last name when you join a lesson so I can get your grade in the gradebook correctly!
* Unit Exams
  + There will be three (3) online, non-cumulative Unit Exams, each consisting of approximately 50 multiple choice questions that cover content from lectures, the textbook, and supporting materials. Exams will assess your knowledge of key terms and definitions, your understanding of core concepts, and your ability to use that information to solve problems. In other words, you will be required to think critically in addition to memorizing, and you must be able to relate different topics to one another. Study guides are included at the end of each lecture PowerPoint.
  + All exams will be administered online via D2L Quizzes. Exams will be made available for two days (see Course Schedule), but once you start an exam, you will have limited time to finish (75 minutes for Unit Exams. *Manage your time wisely*. You may consult your notes, books, and other course materials in moderation, but you will run out of time if you rely on those sources too heavily. Questions will require higher-order, analytical thinking; the answers cannot simply be Googled or ChatGPT’d. It is critical that you have a reliable internet connection and a distraction-free environment when taking exams.
  + Note that each unit exam covers material in the modules leading up to it – for example, Unit Exam #1 covers Modules 1 and 3 only. Study guides will be provided to prepare for these exams – and of course, you are expected to have completed the corresponding study plans and chapter quizzes for each module as well by that point. **Unit Exams are worth 36% of your total grade.**
* Final Exam
  + The final exam is also online, to be taken within D2L, and structured in the same fashion as the Unit Exam, being multiple choice. However, it will consist of one hundred (100) multiple choice questions. The first half of the exam will be cumulative, pulling questions directly from previous unit exams. The latter half of this final exam will cover Modules 25 & 26, over ecology. You will have two hours to complete this online exam, once started.
  + The final exam is mandatory and must be taken at the date and time scheduled by Academic Affairs (see the schedule below). **The Final Exam is worth 14% of your total grade.**

Email me immediately if you have any questions or technical difficulties during an exam. We will NOT meet in person for class on exam days.

**Grading Breakdown:**

Module Quizzes 20%

Study Plans 15%

Participation 15%

Unit Exams (12% each) 36%

Final Exam 14%

Total 100%

**Grading Scale:**

Sample standard Grading Scale:

A= 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

D= 60-69

F= 00-59

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Time Commitment:**

Students should anticipate spending approximately two to three hours studying for each hour of class time. For a 16-week, 3-credit, and face-to-face course that would mean approximately 9-12 hours per week, including time in class. The amount of time required for an individual course will, of course, vary by the student, their courseload, and the priorities outside of the classroom. Just remember that regular review of course materials, including lecture, as well as completion of module quizzes and study plans, is essential to success in this course.

**Make-Up Work Course Policy:**

There are no extensions or make-ups for missed Module Quizzes or Study Plans without documentation for extenuating circumstances (i.e. hospitalization, extreme illness, etc.) at my discretion. Please reach out to me regarding such make-ups or extensions, if this is the case.

This policy also applies to Unit Exams, which, as mentioned previously, are expected to be taken at the scheduled date and time (see tentative schedule below). There are NO make-ups for missed exams except under extreme, extenuating circumstances with documentation – at my discretion.

If a student misses an online exam and is unable to complete a make-up exam, they will receive a 0% for said exam. However, at the end of the semester, I will replace one 0% Unit Exam grade with the percentage score made on the Final Exam. In the meantime, that 0% will be replaced with an 80% placeholder score (which is temporary).

If a student does not complete a 2nd exam, then the 0% grade for the 2nd missed exam is not replaced by the Final Exam and may not be made up.

Student Government representatives and athletes need to contact me during the first few weeks of class, concerning planned absences, so we may adjust due dates accordingly.

**Attendance Course Policy:**

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and stay for the full class period. Students who do not remain for the entire class period or arrive late may receive a 0 for that day’s activity, at my discretion. Remember that I will have in-class Nearpod activities at least once a week that count as your participation score. **I do drop the two lowest Nearpod (Participation) scores, however – which counts as two unexcused absences.**

**Expected Feedback Time:**

Module Quizzes and Study Plans are graded automatically and submitted to the D2L gradebook. However, Participation (Nearpod) grades may take me at least a week to get into the gradebook. Generally, exam scores will be updated to the gradebook within 24-48 hours.

**Student Appeals:** If a student identifies a need or concern in a course (including grade appeals), they must follow the chain of command for communication as follows:

1. Students will contact the course instructor via phone or email documenting the concern. Email is preferred as it creates a written record of the communication with a date and time stamp.
2. If necessary, a face-to-face meeting with the course instructor may be scheduled.
3. Students will provide adequate time for the course instructor to respond to the concern addressed. Adequate time is defined as the amount of time the course instructor indicates in their syllabus for response times to communications.
4. In the event that the situation is unresolved, students may contact the Department Chair of Natural Sciences, Dr. Tate Holbrook, via email (cholbrook@ccga.edu). The email communication should include the previous steps taken and summarize the current status of the issue to date. Please give 48 hours during business days and 72 hours over weekends to receive a response. (Response times may be longer during campus holidays.)
5. If the situation remains unresolved, students may communicate the concern(s) to the following individuals in the following order: 1) Dean of Arts and Sciences, 2) Provost, and 3) President.

Course Evaluations:Course evaluations are completed online by the student during the specified time period before final exams.

College-wide Policies:All college policies are in effect during this course. For relevant policies and procedures to the classroom, please visit [Policies Relevant to Academics](https://portside.ccga.edu/coursepolicies).

# STUDENT SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

* For academic assistance, the [ATTIC](https://www.ccga.edu/academics/studentsuccess/attic) and [Writing Center](https://www.ccga.edu/academics/studentsuccess/writing) offer their services, including student tutoring, in face-to-face and online formats. Visit [Find a Tutor](https://portside.ccga.edu/pid=275) or <https://www.ccga.edu/academics/studentsuccess/writing> for instructions on how to connect with a tutor or a writing coach.
* Contact eLearning for support with Brightspace (D2L) and Respondus by calling 912.279.4543 or emailing [elearning@ccga.edu](mailto:elearning@ccga.edu).
* Online support for D2L, including live chat, is available 24/7 at the [D2L Help Center](https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/).
* Contact Technology Services for support with passwords, email, and other campus systems by calling 912.279.5760.

## Technical Difficulties: If you experience technical difficulties while completing assignments and/or quizzes, send a screenshot of the error to me prior to the assignment/exam deadline. You can then further try to resolve the issue by contacting the [D2L Helpdesk](https://portside.ccga.edu/d2lsupport) or [Lumen Learning](https://support.lumenlearning.com/) for online technical support. This will be the best resource if you experience technical difficulties as I am not an IT expert. If needed, assignments and exams will be reopened once the technical issue is resolved if a screenshot was provided prior to the deadline.

**Course Access and Navigation:**Using D2L is a requirement for this course, as all content and assignments are delivered using this website. Check it every day for announcements and to keep track of assignments.

Reserve Clause:The instructor reserves the right to revise, alter, or amend this syllabus as necessary. Students will be notified in writing / email of any such changes. Any issue not directly addressed by existing class or college policy shall be managed at the discretion of the instructor.

## Full URLs for Above Hyperlinks:

* College-wide Policies: <https://portside.ccga.edu/coursepolicies>
* ATTIC: <https://www.ccga.edu/academics/studentsuccess/attic>
* Writing Center: <https://www.ccga.edu/academics/studentsuccess/writing>
* Find a Tutor: <https://portside.ccga.edu/pid=275>
* D2L Help Center: <https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/>

**BIOL 1108 Spring Tentative Schedule 2025**

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| Week | Lecture Schedule/Assigned Reading | Important Dates |
| Week 1  Jan. 13-17 | **Syllabus and Waymaker Overview**  Module 1: Biology and the Properties of Life | **Classes Begin**  **Jan. 13th** |
| Week 2  Jan. 20-24 | No Class Jan. 20th (Campus Closed)  Genetics Primer & Module 3: Natural Selection | **Module 1: Quiz and Study Plan Due Jan. 26th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 3  Jan. 27-31 | Module 3: Natural Selection (cont.)  Module 3: Selection and Phylogeny |  |
| Week 4  Feb. 3-7 | Module 3: Speciation  Module 3: Evolution of Populations | **Module 3: Quiz and Study Plan Due Feb. 9th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 5  Feb. 10-14 | **Unit Exam #1 (Online) – Modules 1 & 3 (Feb. 10th- 11th)**  Module 4: Evolution and Diversity of Prokaryotes | **Module 4: Quiz and Study Plan Due Feb. 16th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 6  Feb. 17-21 | Module 4: Evolution and Diversity of Prokaryotes  Module 5: Evolution, Diversity, and Ecology of Protists | **Module 5: Quiz and Study Plan Due Feb. 23rd by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 7  Feb. 24-28 | Module 7: Evolution and Diversity of Plants  Module 9: The Life Cycle and Reproduction of Plants | **Modules 7 and 9: Quizzes and Study Plans Due Mar. 2nd by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 8  Mar. 3-7 | Module 9: The Life Cycle and Reproduction of Plants (cont.)  **Unit #2 Exam (Online): Modules 4, 5, 7, and 9 (Mar. 5th – 6th)** |  |
| Week 9  Mar. 10-14 | **SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES** |  |
| Week 10  Mar. 17-21 | Module 6: Characteristics and Ecology of Fungi  Module 10: Evolution and Characteristics of Animals | **Module 6: Quiz and Study Plan Due Mar. 23rd by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 11  Mar. 24-28 | Module 10: Evolution and Characteristics of Animals (cont.)  Module 11: Porifera and Cnidaria | **Module 10: Quiz and Study Plan Due Mar. 30th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 12  Mar. 31-April 4 | Module 11: Protostomes: Lophotrochozoa  Module 11: Protostomes: Ecdysozoa | **Last Day to Withdraw w/o Academic Penalty**  **Module 11: Quiz and Study Plan Due April 6th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 13  April 7-11 | Module 11: Protostomes: Ecdysozoa  Module 11 & 12: Echinoderms, Chordates, & Fish | **Module 12: Quiz and Study Plan Due Apr. 13th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 14  April 14-18 | Module 12: The Tetrapods  **Unit #3 Exam (Online): Modules 6 (part), 10, 11, and 12 (April 16th – 17th)** |  |
| Week 15  April 21-25 | Module 25: Principles of Ecology, Ecosystems, and Biomes  Module 25: Communities & Population Growth | **Module 25: Quiz and Study Plan Due Apr. 27th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 16  April 28 – May 2 | Module 26: Energy Flow, Global Cycles, and Climate Change  Module 26: Conservation and Preserving Biodiversity | **Module 26: Quiz and Study Plan Due May 4th by 11:59 PM** |
| Week 17 | **FINAL EXAM (Online) – Monday, May 5th @ 8:00 AM** |  |