

Biology 112
Concepts in Human Biology and Health Issues
Spring 2012 Syllabus

PROFESSOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Richard Kliman
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GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Number of credits: 4 cr lecture and lab

Prerequisites: None

Required text: S.S. Mader and M. Windelspecht. *Human Biology*. 12th ed. McGraw-Hill, NY, 2012.

Outside readings: To be selected.

Course description (from catalog): Current health issues are examined in this course to provide awareness and scientific literacy about their potential impact and application to our well-being and the choices we make. Format of course: Lecture (3 hours) and lab (3 hours).

Course objectives: The purpose of this course is to provide you with an opportunity to develop an understanding of biological principles, as they relate to human health. In other words, human health provides a framework for discussion of broader biological principles.

COURSE OUTCOMES/ASSESSMENT

At the completion of the course, you will understand essential concepts of biology, in particular those that relate to physiology of cells and organisms, with an emphasis on humans. You will be able to effectively communicate this understanding. You will demonstrate critical thinking. Your progress will be monitored in classroom discussions, formal exams, and assignments associated with laboratory exercises.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION

Grading: The final grade is based on percentage of points earned:

≥ 93% = A	≥ 90% = A-	≥ 87% = B+	≥ 83% = B	≥ 80% = B-
≥ 77% = C+	≥ 73% = C	≥ 70% = C-	≥ 67% = D+	≥ 60% = D

As discussed below, the final grade in the course is based on your lecture and lab grades. Your lecture grade will reflect your performance in the following:

Exams 1, 2 and 3:	60%	Each lecture exam accounts for 20% of your lecture grade. Lecture exams will be on material covered since the previous exam (or, in the case of the first exam, since the first day of class). Exams will combine multiple-choice and essay/short-answer questions.
Class Participation:	20%	Regular participation is required for a B. In order to earn an A, your contributions to class discussion should regularly reflect insight and preparation. Read before class. Let's face it: we meet once a week for 2.5 hours. If I

do all the talking, none of us will be very happy! Each unexcused absence from lecture will lead to a grade penalty equivalent to 1/10 of the class participation grade.

Final Exam:	20%	The Final Exam is not comprehensive, and will be on material covered after the third lecture exam.
Quizzes:	Up to 5% Extra Credit	There will be 5 "pop" quizzes, which will test your understanding of material covered in the previous lecture and your familiarity with material to be covered that day.

Your final grade in the course will be calculated from your lecture and lab grades. The grade will be computed by multiplying your lecture grade by 2/3, by multiplying your lab grade by 1/3, and then summing the two.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Attendance: Attendance in lecture is strongly recommended. **Attendance on exam days is required.**

Attendance in lab is required (see separate lab syllabus). Unexcused absences on lecture exam days will be dealt with on an *ad hoc* basis, but the default is that you will forfeit credit for a missed exam.

- If you must miss class or lab for a Cedar Crest-sanctioned activity, provide appropriate proof in advance; this should be done as soon as you are aware of the conflict. Otherwise, your absence will be considered unexcused.
- If you must miss class or lab for a legitimate, but unforeseen, reason, let me know as soon as possible; your absence will be considered unexcused until we hear from the Dean of Student's Office that the absence was judged to be unavoidable.

Policy on make-up exams: If I conclude that you missed an exam for a legitimate reason, I will prepare a makeup exam if the exam has already been returned. You should expect the exam to be essay-format.

CEDAR CREST COLLEGE HONOR CODE (INCLUDING THE CLASSROOM PROTOCOL)

The Department of Biological Sciences fully supports the Cedar Crest College Honor Code. The Honor Code is explained in the Student Handbook; I recommend that you review it.

The minimum penalty for cheating on an exam is an F on the exam, but I reserve the right to apply a stronger penalty if it is warranted in my opinion. If you cheat on more than one exam, you will be assigned a grade of F in the course. All cheating will be reported to the Office of the Provost, and additional penalties may be applied by the College.

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Any incidences will be noted and you will be penalized 1/3 of your final letter grade for each incidence (e.g., B to a B-). Generally, disruptive behavior in the classroom is any behavior that interferes with the process of learning, including late arrival to class or early departure from class. At Cedar Crest College, it is the right of every student and faculty member to engage in a classroom experience free from disruptive behavior. What is disruptive to one person might not be disruptive to another, so the final authority on disruptive behavior is the faculty member. Faculty members have the authority to address disruptive behavior in the manner they see fit under the guidelines set forth in the College Catalog (please see the section on "Classroom Protocol").

POLICY REGARDING LEARNING DISABILITIES

Students with documented disabilities who may need academic accommodations should discuss these needs with their professors during the first two weeks of class. Students with disabilities who wish to request accommodations should contact the Advising Center.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

Exams will be taken during the first hour of the class meeting. After a short break, the day's topic will be discussed. *Pop quizzes will not be given on exam days.*

<u>Date</u>		<u>Topic</u>	<u>Read before class</u>
January 18		Introduction	Chapter 1
January 25		Chemistry of Life	Chapter 2
February 1		Cell Structure and Function	Chapter 3
February 8		Cell Structure and Function, cont'd	Chapter 3
February 15	Exam 1	Overview of Body Systems	Chapter 4
February 22		Genetic Inheritance	Chapter 20
February 29		Human Evolution	Chapter 22
March 14	Exam 2	See below	TBD
March 21 - end		See below	TBD

For the remaining class meeting, beginning March 14 after the exam, the class will select the chapters to discuss. Chapters will be selected at least two weeks in advance. **An exam will be given on April 11** covering Chapter 22 and any additional chapters discussed prior to April 11. The class can select any chapters, with the following caveats:

- 1) For some topics, a particular chapter may need to be read in order to provide foundational material. We will determine when this is required.
- 2) The class must select Chapter 13 (Nervous System); and Chapters 5 (Cardiovascular System) and 10 (Urinary System). These topics are especially important, because they relate earlier topics on cell structure and function (*e.g.*, diffusion, active transport, and exocytosis) to anatomy and physiology.

Final Exam: Date to be announced. The final exam will cover any chapters discussed April 11 through April 25.

Your obligations for this course include attendance at the final exam, on the day and time scheduled by the Registrar's Office. You should not make travel arrangements until the final exam schedule is published; if you must make plans early, you should schedule your travel after the last final exam day.