

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form.

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

GSU-1132 Life Sciences, 3 credit hours

Course Description

Life Sciences is a survey of the Life Sciences fields, focusing on the basic structure of, and metabolic and molecular processes in, cells; the fundamentals of genetics; human origins and development; and ecology. This course will equip the student with the science concepts and vocabulary necessary to apply these principles to a variety of contemporary issues in science as well as focus on current research in a particular area of biological interest. Finally, this course will help students better appreciate the depths of the truth found in Romans 1:20, that the creation of the world clearly reveals God's eternal power and divine nature. *There are no prerequisites required for this course.*

Course Goals

In the course you will:

- Understand major biological principles and related vocabulary
- Understand the application of these principles to contemporary issues in science
- Gain a better understanding of and deeper appreciation for God's creation

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify the various major biological fields
2. Summarize the basic biological concepts covered in this course
3. Discuss the current biological issues covered in this course
4. Compose a paper that examines current available research in a particular area of scientific interest

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments

All assignments (reading and written) should be completed according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule. To successfully complete this course, you will be required to complete the following:

1. **EXAMS:** You will take two 50 questions multiple-choice exams in this course. The first exam will cover all content (i.e., textbook readings, assignments, and discussion questions) from Lessons 1-4. The second exam will cover all content from Lessons 5-8. These exams will be taken during Weeks 4 and 8.
2. **TERM PAPER:** A term paper will be due at the end of Week 8. Further requirements for this paper may be found in the **Assignments** section of Blackboard.
3. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Discussion Board participation is also expected. You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board, posting your own thoughtful response to discussion board prompts as well as interacting with your classmates' posts (2-3 interactions per Lesson suggested). Generally, your posts should be about 200 – 300 words in length. The material covered in class each week will give you the tools needed to discuss each topic. However, you will also need to devote time to online research in order to offer a more comprehensive response to the topic. It is expected that although online sources will be referenced, these posts will represent your original written response to each issue (i.e., responses should be written in your own language and not simply copied from online sources).
4. **WEEKLY LESSON GUIDES:** Guides for each lesson may be found in the **Assignments** section of Blackboard and should be completed in conjunction with the Course Reading for each lesson.

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Exam #1 | 20% |
| Exam #2 | 20% |
| Term Paper | 25% |
| Class Participation | 20% |
| Weekly Course Reading and Guide Completion Report | 15% |
| | 100% |

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

| Letter Grade | Percentage Equivalent | Letter Grade | Percentage Equivalent |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| A | 96% or higher | C | 73 - 76.9% |
| A- | 90 - 95.9% | C- | 70 - 72.9% |
| B+ | 87 - 89.9% | D+ | 67 - 69.9% |
| B | 83 - 86.9% | D | 63- 66.9% |
| B- | 80 - 82.9% | D- | 60 - 62.9% |
| C+ | 77 - 79.9% | F | Below 60% |

Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though you may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at my.moody.edu. If you have not previously accessed the library database you may wish to complete the [database tutorial](#).

Apple™ has developed a platform for colleges and universities to post audio and video content called iTunes University™. There are a number of lectures available on iTunes U that you may wish to listen to related to the topics discussed in class.

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Recommended Reading

Behe, Michael J. *Darwin's Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution*. New York: The Free Press, 1998.

Denton, Michael. *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*. Chevy Chase, MD: Adler and Adler, 1986.

Falk, Darrel R. *Coming to Peace with Science: Bridging the Worlds between Faith and Biology*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Frair, Wayne. *Biology and Creation: An Introduction Regarding Life and Its Origins*. Chino Valley, AR: Creation Research Society, 2002.

Klein, Robert, James C. MacKenzie. *Basic Concepts in Cell Biology: A Student's Survival Guide*. Boston: McGraw-Hill, 2000.

Lester, Lane, Dennis Englin, and George Howe. *Designs in the Living World*. 3rd ed. (Franklin Springs: SimbioSys, 1999).

Parker, Gary. *Building Blocks in Science*. Green Forest, AZ: Master Books, 2007.