

## BI215 – Organismal Biology

Spring 2018

### Syllabus

**Instructor:** Dr. Michael Weichhaus  
**Address:** Wesselkamper, Room 107  
**Phone:** 440-4286  
**Email Address:** michael.weichhaus@chaminade.edu  
**Office Hours:** Wed: 14:00-16:00 and Thu: 10:00-12:00  
**Class Hours:** TR 13:00-14:20 room Henry Hall 203

### Texts:

- Campbell Biology, Tenth Edition, Pearson

### Aims of the course:

- Prepare the students for further education in advanced biology courses, or related fields.
- Introduce the student to the cellular biology of prokaryotes and eukaryotes.
- To help the student on their road to becoming a competent and educated professional.
- To examine and analyze specific content areas, such as molecular or cellular biology, evolution, genetics, physiology, and related areas of biochemistry and biophysics.
- To study the organisms included in the botanical and zoological fields emphasizing Hawaiian flora and fauna.
- Learn how to critically read scientific journal articles.

### At the end of the course you will be able to do the following

- Identify biological structures, such as organs, and understand their anatomy and physiology.
- Use anatomy and physiology terminology.
- Identify representative flora and fauna, especially of Hawaii.
- Understand the diversity of organisms including diversity, evolution, and phylogeny.
- Understand how organism systems are related to each other and cellular level processes.
- Understand ecological relationships between organisms and environment.
- Learn about genetic processes affecting the organism including gene regulation.

### Lecture Assignments

1. Lecture topics are listed on the attached outline. Each lecture has a reading assignment to be completed by the student independently. Exam questions will include material that may **ONLY** be covered by the reading assignment.
2. Each student will be expected to complete 3 summaries of **biological research** articles published in scientific journals. These articles will be provided by the instructor **TWO** weeks, before the assignment is due. Each will consist of a 250-500 word summary.
3. Attendance is expected in lecture sessions. A sign in sheet will be passed around during each class., and unexcused absences (more than 3) may result in a decrease in grade by one grade level. If you know that you will be unable to attend a class then please let me know by e-mail. Unexcused absence for two consecutive weeks may result in the student being withdrawn from the course without notice. The student is responsible to catch-up on all topics/material covered during their absence.

### Evaluation of Student Performance

1. Separate grades are given for lecture and laboratory. It is possible to receive different grades for lecture and laboratory.
2. There is no curve for exams or final scores. The scale used is given below.

3. There will be four midterm exams and one final exam for this course. Exam schedule is attached.
4. The final examination is a two-hour comprehensive examination including topics from the beginning of the course.
5. Extra credit work is NOT available.
6. Missed exams can only be made up for valid excuses (to be determined by the instructor). In cases of illness, a physician's note is necessary.
7. The lecture grade will be determined in the following manner:

Summaries	10 percent
Weekly Canvas Quizzes	10 percent
1 <sup>st</sup> Lecture Exam	15 percent
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lecture Exam	15 percent
3 <sup>rd</sup> Lecture Exam	15 percent
4 <sup>th</sup> Lecture Exam	15 percent
Final exam	<u>20 percent</u>
	100 percent

Strict scale:	90% - 100% = A
	80% - 90% = B
	70% - 80% = C
	60% - 70% = D
	Below 60% = F

#### **Class standing:**

The instructor, prior to the withdrawal deadline, will notify students with grades of D or lower. Students receiving deficiency notices are required to arrange a conference with instructor.

#### **University and Departmental Policies:**

##### **1. ADA Accommodations**

Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the CUH Counseling Center (Dr. June Yasuhara; phone 735 - 4845) by the end of week three of the class, in order for the instructor to plan accordingly. Failure to provide written documentation will prevent your instructor from making the necessary accommodations. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Students and review the procedures at [http://www.chaminade.edu/student\\_life/sss/counseling\\_services.php](http://www.chaminade.edu/student_life/sss/counseling_services.php).

##### **2. Title IX Compliance**

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you want to speak to a confidential source you may contact the following:

- a. Chaminade Counseling Center 808 735-4845.
- b. Any priest serving as a sacramental confessor or any ordained religious leader serving in the sacred confidence role.

##### **3. Attendance Policy**

You are solely responsible for your learning. Attendance during lecture is one way to familiarize yourself with the learning material, however you may by now have discovered more effective ways of learning. As such attendance during lecture is not mandatory. You are responsible to familiarize yourself on all topics/material covered during your absence.

##### **4. Academic Conduct Policy**

The success of the Honor Code is made possible only with the acceptance and cooperation of every student. Detailed policies on Academic Conduct can be found in the Student [Handbook](#). Each student is expected to maintain the principles of the Code. Example of Honor Code violations include, but are not limited to:

- Giving or receiving information from another student during an examination;

- Using unauthorized sources for answers during an examination;
- Illegally obtained test questions before the test;
- Any and all forms of plagiarism – submit all or part of someone else’s work or ideas as your own;
- The destruction and/or confiscation of school and/or personal property.
- Violations of the Honor Code are serious. They harm other students, your professor, and the integrity of the University. Alleged violations will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. If found guilty of plagiarism, a student might receive a range of penalties, including failure of an assignment, failure of an assignment and withholding of the final course grade until a paper is turned in on the topic of plagiarism, failure of the course, or suspension from the University.

Violations of Academic Integrity: Violations of the principle include, but are not limited to:

- Cheating: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids, or other devices in any academic exercise.
- Fabrication and Falsification: Intentional and unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification is a matter of inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.
- Multiple Submissions: The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work for credit (including oral reports) more than once without authorization.
- Plagiarism: Intentionally or knowingly presenting the work of another as one’s own (i.e., without proper acknowledgment of the source).
- Abuse of Academic Materials: Intentionally or knowingly destroying, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource materials.
- Complicity in Academic Dishonesty: Intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying or borrowing liberally from someone else’s work without his/her knowledge or permission; or with his/her knowledge or permission and turning it in as your own work.
- Copying of someone else’s exam or paper.
- Allowing someone to turn in your work as his or her own. DO NOT provide your work to someone else for reference.
- Not providing adequate references for cited work.
- Copying and pasting large quotes or passages without properly citing them.

### **On-Campus Tutoring**

- Retention, Advising, and Career Preparation offers free, one-on-one tutoring for all undergraduate students at Chaminade. Subjects tutored include, but are not limited to: biology, chemistry, math, nursing, English, etc. The tutoring corps consists of trained Peer and Professional Tutors.
- Tutoring is available by appointment only. Tutoring takes place in either the Student Support Services building during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- In order to receive tutoring, a student can visit the Student Support Services building and complete an information form. After submitting this form, a staff member will assist the student in creating
- an online account that allows him/her to book a tutoring appointment through the online system.
- All appointments must be made two days prior to the desired appointment. Cancellations must be made 24 hours in advance.

### **Online Tutoring through Smarthinking**

- All CUH students are eligible to use Smarthinking, an online tutoring system. Students are able to access Smarthinking via their canvas account.
- Through Smarthinking, students are able to connect in real-time with an expert educator in a variety of subjects using a virtual whiteboard technology. Students also have an option to schedule a 30-minute appointment with a tutor of their choice. The Online Writing Lab provides students with the ability to receive a detailed, personalized critique of any written assignment through a formal critique process.
- All sessions are archived and available for students to review at any time for studying or test preparation.

For any questions related to tutoring services, please contact Nicolle Bekers, Tutor Coordinator, at [nicolle.bekers@chaminade.edu](mailto:nicolle.bekers@chaminade.edu).

### **Appropriate Technology**

1. Please have a mobile device (e.g. cell phone, tablet, laptop) with you in class. Lecture slides will be available to you prior to class through google slides. These are provided to you as an additional learning tool.
2. Participation in in class polling is encouraged through PollEverywhere. Instructions will be provided during class. ([pollev.com/weichhaus](http://pollev.com/weichhaus))

### **Organismal Biology Research Article Summaries**

1. Each student is to submit a summary of a scientific article pertinent to organismal biology. The principle objective of the summary is to expose and engage the student in reading and understanding scientific literature. Another objective is to increase the student's ability to concisely summarize scientific information.
2. The research articles to be summarized will be provided by the instructor **TWO** weeks before the summary due date below. Students are expected to submit individually written summaries. Group work, interaction with the instructor and seeking help online is desired.
3. There will be **three** summaries due during the semester. The summaries will count as a total of 10% of your grade (3.3% each).
4. Summaries must be typed or word processed (use 12 point font). University writing standards are expected. Summaries should be around **500 words**.
5. Your submissions must be in pdf or doc format uploaded to the appropriate assignment on the course's canvas site.
6. Detailed instructions for each of the **three** assignments can be found on the assignment page on canvas.

### **Canvas Quizzes**

In order to enhance your learning and understanding of cell biology, you will be quizzed weekly on the topics that are being discussed in class. The canvas quizzes will be due on Thursday and based on the previous week's content. If you are unsatisfied with your initial result, you have the option to repeat the quiz once. The highest score will be used for your grade.

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Week	Date	Lecture	Reading assignment	Comments
1	1/16	Syllabus; Course overview; Plant Diversity	Chapter 29	
	1/18	Plant Diversity	Chapter 30	
2	1/23	Plant Structure, Growth and Development	Chapter 35	
	1/25			
3	1/30	Transport in vascular plants	Chapter 36	1 <sup>st</sup> writing assignment
	2/1			
4	2/6	Exam #1		
	2/8	Soil & Plant Nutrition	Chapter 37	
5	2/13	Angiosperm Reproduction	Chapter 38	Summary 1 due
	2/15	Plant Hormones	Chapter 39	
6	2/20	Animal Diversity	Chapter 32	
	2/22			
7	2/27	Exam #2		
	3/1			
8	3/6	Animal Form & Function	Chapter 40	
	3/8			
9	3/13	Animal Nutrition	Chapter 41	Summary 2 due
	3/15			
10	3/20	Circulation and Gas Exchange	Chapter 42	
	3/22	Exam #3		
Spring Recess – No class				
11	4/3	The immune system	Chapter 43	
	4/5			
12	4/10	Osmoregulation and Excretion	Chapter 44	3 <sup>rd</sup> writing assignment
	4/12			
13	4/17	Hormones and Endocrine System	Chapter 45	
	4/19	Exam #4		
14	4/24	Animal Reproduction	Chapter 46/47	Summary 3 due
	4/26			
15	5/1	Nervous System	Chapter 48/49	
	5/3			
16	5/8	Final Exam Tuesday, May 08, 2018, 1:15 PM – 3:15 PM		

Every effort has been made to insure that the material in this syllabus is accurate and complete. However, occasionally changes must be made to the printed schedule. Thus the instructor reserves the right to make any changes in the contents of this syllabus that he deems necessary or desirable. These changes, if any, will be announced as soon as the need for them becomes apparent.