Instructor Information
Course Instructor: Ms. Aisha I. Cobbs  
Phone: (404)769-6375  
E-mail: Aisha.Cobbs@gpc.edu  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday 3-5 p.m.; other times by appointment

Note: I will try to respond to all iCollege e-mails within 24 hours during the week. On weekends, I usually check e-mail at least once.

Required Materials

Textbook Information
ISBN: 978-0558578183

Scantron Forms – All students are required to purchase their own red scantron forms for the proctored final exams. These are available for purchase at any GPC campus bookstore.

Course Information
Course Pre-requisite: Exit from ENGD 99, READ 99  
Course Co-requisite: BIOL 1403 Laboratory

Course Description: This course introduces the student to the variety of living organisms, including bacteria, viruses, algae, protozoa, fungi, plants, and animals, and the biological principles that unite them. Attention is given to the evolution of these forms and their ecological interactions with each other and with humanity.

Course Objectives:  
As a result of completing this course, the student will be able to:

- Describe the history of scientific study of biological diversity.
- Explain the logical foundation of the theory of evolution by natural selection, cite examples of evidence for the theory, and explain how the process of natural selection produces change in populations.
- List and define the characteristics of all living organisms, and apply these characteristics to animals, plants, fungi, protozoa, algae, bacteria, and viruses.
- Name and describe the distinguishing features of each of the major kingdoms, and the major groups (phyla, divisions, classes) in each kingdom.

- Describe the interactions among organisms and their environments at the population, community, and ecosystem levels of organization.

- Characterize the major biomes in the world ecosystem, their contributions to human economic systems, and the importance of their conservation.

- Describe economic, medical, and other uses or effects on humans of members of various major groups.

**General Education Outcomes**

This course addresses the general education outcome relating to communications as follows:

- Students develop their reading comprehension skill by reading the text, handout materials, and published articles as assigned.

- Students develop their listening skills through lecture, small group collaborative activities, and videos and/or guest lectures.

- Students develop their reading and writing skills through the use of exercises that will require them to read and respond to ideas appropriately. Essay questions will be required on course exams.

This course addresses the general education outcome relating to usage of mathematical concepts and applies the scientific method as follows:

- Students will apply quantitative information and algebraic concepts to living systems, for example, to explain how surface area/volume ratios affect size, shape, and complexity of organisms.

- Students will apply the scientific method as they learn to analyze data and determine the validity of conclusions supported by data.

This course addresses the general education outcome relating to identifying and evaluating global economic, political, historical, and geographical forces and analyzing how these forces shape the past, present, and future.

This course examines how historical forces have affected the emergence of modern biological science, and how biology, in turn, has affected our understanding of ourselves as organisms and our place in the universe.
Important Dates to Remember
May 30 – First Day of Classes
June 6 – No Shows Reported
June 26 – Midpoint of Semester
July 4 – Independence Day Holiday (No Classes)
July 11 – Last Day to Withdraw
July 18 – Last Day of Classes
July 20 – Proctored Final Exam (On-campus)

ASSIGNMENTS

The schedule included in this syllabus gives the order of topics that are to be covered. The corresponding chapter(s) in the textbook should be read and any related iCollege activities completed before each lab completion due date. There will be three exams during the course of the semester. There will also be a proctored final comprehensive exam that will be given on July 20th at the Clarkston Campus.

GRADE DETERMINATION

The final letter grade will be determined in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation (Discussions board)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (3 at 100 points each)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Proctored Final Exam (On-campus)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total possible points</strong></td>
<td><strong>550</strong></td>
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</table>

The mathematical average will be calculated and a letter grade given based on the numerical system stated in the catalog and repeated below:

A = 90 - 100       C = 70 - 79       F = 59 or below
B = 80 - 89        D = 60 – 69

EXAMS AND MAKE-UP EXAMS
**ALL exams will be administered online via iCollege, with the exception of the mandatory proctored final exam.** Please remember that the comprehensive final exam will consist of two parts: an online component and an in-person proctored component. **This term, all online proctored final exams will take place on July 20th at the Clarkston Campus.** Times and room assignments will be announced. Students MUST take their exams during the scheduled day(s) and there will not be any option to change exam locations. Out-of-state students must contact the instructor so that alternative testing arrangements can be made.

All exams will multiple choice as well as short answer and discussion questions. Answers will require not only memory skill, but will also ask the student to organize and correlate information. Exams are to be taken CLOSED BOOK and CLOSED NOTES. ALL exams must be taken INDIVIDUALLY – no sharing of answers or “group” testing. **No test grades will be dropped.**

**EXAM SCHEDULE**

Exams are tentatively scheduled for the following dates:

- **Lecture Exam 1** – June 10-11th
- **Lecture Exam 2** – June 24-25th
- **Lecture Exam 3** – July 15-16th
- **Proctored Final Comprehensive Exam** – July 20th, Clarkston Campus only

**Please note: Above exam dates are subject to change.**

**CLASS CONDUCT**

You are expected to complete all online assignments. While most of your work in this course will be done at home (visiting linked web sites, reading the textbook, taking notes), you are expected to maintain regular communications with the instructor and with other students via iCollege. You should plan on logging in to iCollege AT LEAST twice per week for the calendar of assignments and announcements, discussions, and practice quizzes. **NOTE: A portion of the grade (100 points) for this course is based on participation on the discussions board.** Participation means posting original answers to discussion questions posted each week, or making novel comments about other student’s postings. I will lock discussion questions the day before the corresponding exam and no further answers will be allowed at that point. Keeping up with the material on a weekly basis is essential for successfully completing this course.
STUDENT INITIATED WITHDRAWAL

A student who officially withdraws for any reason before the mid-point of the semester will receive a grade of W. Any student who withdraws after the mid-point will receive a WF unless approved as a hardship withdrawal by the appropriate Department Head, Division Dean, or Campus Administrative Dean. Hardship withdrawals are not allowed as an attempt to avoid an unsatisfactory grade and are not possible after the end of the semester. Documentation of hardship must be presented.

INCOMPLETE REQUESTS

Students seeking an incomplete for the course must contact the course instructor, provide a written explanation for the request (including authentic documentation), and complete the required paperwork. All requests are reviewed by the Online Science Department Chairperson. A student can only be considered for an incomplete request if they are passing the course and only have the final exam to complete. Otherwise they do not qualify for an incomplete and need to consult an advisor in the Advising, Counseling, and Retention Services Department.

There is no attendance policy for this class. Therefore, it is YOUR responsibility to complete withdrawal forms. Withdrawal forms are available in the Registrar's office. You are encouraged, but not required, to discuss withdrawal with me.

Academic Honesty

Academic Misconduct is defined as cheating and/or plagiarism. Cheating includes any attempt to defraud, deceive or mislead the instructor in arriving at an honest grade assessment. Plagiarism is a form of cheating that involves presenting as one's own, the ideas or work of another. Any student found by the instructor to have engaged in academic misconduct on a graded test, assignment, or examination may be assigned a zero for that assignment, assigned an F in the course, and/or be charged with cheating in the Georgia Perimeter College student judiciary process. Students found guilty of cheating may be dismissed from the class or from the college. The GPC student handbook describes the regulations governing these procedures.

Americans with Disabilities Act Statement

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and require assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services (CDS). A CDS counselor will coordinate these services.

Equal Opportunity Statement

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, creed, national origin, age or disability be excluded from employment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by GPC.
**Affirmative Action Statement**
Georgia Perimeter College adheres to affirmative action policies to promote diversity and equal opportunity for all faculty and students.

**Academic Respect**
The college exists to foster educational excellence. To this end, a classroom atmosphere that supports learning must be maintained. Students are expected to be active, attentive participants in the class. Students are also expected to abide by class policies and procedures and to treat faculty and other students in a professional, respectful manner. Students are expected to be familiar with the student conduct code published in the Student Handbook.

**Regent's Test Statement**
Students are required to take the Regent's test. Each student has two attempts to pass this test before he or she accumulates 45 hours of collegiate credit. After two attempts, or after reaching 45 hours, a student will be required to take classes to prepare for the test. These classes are three credit hours each. (The test is free; the courses require tuition payment.) After accumulating 54 or more credit hours, a student may not take any collegiate level courses until he or she completes the preparation classes and passes the Regent's test. Students should sign up for the test when enrolled in or immediately following the completion of ENGL 1102 and prior to accumulating 45 credit hours.

**Instructional Support Services**
The math and Writing Center (ISS) offer free individual tutoring on a drop-in basis. Tutoring is available in a wide variety of collegiate courses as well as in learning Support courses. Professional, degreed personnel conduct tutoring. Hours are posted on the web at www.gpc.edu.

**Lab Waiver Policy**
Students with special medical conditions (pregnancy, nursing, immune deficiencies, etc.) who have documentation from their (licensed) physician may request a waiver of lab until a later date. Students must present this documentation to the department chair at the time of the request.

Georgia Perimeter College recognizes that students are free to take reasonable exception to the data or views offered in any course of study, while meeting the responsibility to learn the content of the course and maintaining the standards of academic performance established for the course. Specifically, the College recognizes the right of the student to free thought and orderly free expression in an atmosphere that is conducive to learning and free of coercion and unreasonable interference.

**Multiple Campuses Statement**
Students taking lecture and lab at different campuses should be aware that, while the content is the same, the order of topics may be different. Students are responsible for covering the material as required by each instructor.
## Biology 1403 Lecture Online
### Schedule of Topics
#### Summer 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Learning Module Title</th>
<th>Chapter Number(s)</th>
<th>Completion Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Biology: Exploring Life</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>June 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How Populations Evolve</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>The Origin of Species</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>June 11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tracing Evolutionary History</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Exam #1 this week (June 10-11)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Origin and Evolution of Microbial Life: Prokaryotes and Protists</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>June 18</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plants, Fungi, and the Colonization of Land</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Unifying Concepts of Animal Structure and Function</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>June 25</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Evolution of Invertebrate Diversity</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Evolution of Vertebrate Diversity</td>
<td>19</td>
<td><strong>Exam #2 this week (June 24-25)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Behavioral Adaptations to the Environment</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>July 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Population Ecology</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Communities and Ecosystems</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>July 9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Biosphere: An Introduction to Earth’s Diverse Environments</td>
<td>34</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Conservation Biology</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>July 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Exam #3 this week (July 15-16)</strong></td>
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<td>Last Day of Class</td>
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<td><strong>In-person Proctored Final Exam (July 20)</strong></td>
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**Note:** This syllabus and its content are subject to modifications. Any changes will be announced.