



Bridgewater State University
BIOL 110 Biology: A Human Approach
(3 Credits)
2023 Summer / ONLINE



Frida Kahlo, *The Two Fridas*, 1939

Duration: 29 May – 23 June, 2023

Instructor: Maria T. Armour, MS

Office Hours: Available for Zoom appointments by request

BSU COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

“This course examines biological principles as they apply to human biology and to the role of humans in nature. A study of different levels of organization leads to analysis of the structure and function of the major systems of the human body. Topics will include human heredity, evolution and ecology.”

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:



- 1) Following this course, students should be able to apply the scientific method and be capable of researching, writing about, and presenting on current scientific topics.
- 2) The student should not only become familiar with the structure and function of individual organs and organ systems but must also realize that the human body functions as a unified organism due to the integration of organ systems.
- 3) Students will acquire and practice the skills needed to collaborate with their fellow students through discussion panels and project work.
- 4) Encourage students to work in collaborative groups.
- 5) Expose students to the extensive information available from scientific journals, while providing them with the various tools used to search specific topics.

COURSE FORMAT:

- Semi-synchronized / Hybrid
 - Asynchronized Lectures
 - Accessed at own pace each week through Blackboard Course Site
 - Includes Narrative Lecture videos and .pdf of lecture slides
 - Vital to keep pace with lectures as course goes extremely fast in the winter
 - Synchronized – 3 required meetings (time will be notice on class)
 - Initial course introduction
 - Check-in following Exam I
 - Group Presentations
 - Groups and topic assigned on first meeting
 - Each group must present 10 min talk to whole class on Zoom
 - Question / answer session following each talk

LECTURES:



All lectures for each exam will be made available to you on Bb the Sunday prior to when they are assigned in the schedule. Each topic will have a narrated lecture you will be able to stream within Bb and the corresponding pdf slides. There is considerable amount of information you are required to obtain in a short period of time due to the winter schedule – *do not* wait until the last minute to view videos or look over material as there is an exam weekly! Along with lectures a Review Sheet for the exam will be made available and you should use this as you watch the narrations to help study for the upcoming exam.

REQUIREMENTS OF COURSE: This course is 100% online and requires you to have:

- Access to internet – especially during required meeting times
 - If this is not feasible at times please let me know and I can work with you
- Download Respondus Browser to your computer (free with BSU credentials)

BLACKBOARD:

All course material, including syllabus, presentations, podcast assignments, exam reviews (when given), and group presentations will be posted on the BIOL 110 Blackboard site. A textbook is not required for this course, however if you are having difficulty comprehending any subject we cover, I can share supplemental material with you electronically.

CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS STATEMENT:

Bridgewater State University is committed to providing equal access to students with documented disabilities. To ensure your access to this course and the BSU community, students with disabilities are encouraged to collaborate with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Through SAS, you may initiate the confidential process of requesting reasonable accommodations. SAS can be reached at Disability_Resources@bridgew.edu or 508.531.2194.



If you are granted accommodations, please meet with me confidentially to review how they will be applied in this course.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

First and foremost, **use me** for assistance and success in this course. Feel free to ask questions during our scheduled Blackboard zoom sessions, request a 1 on 1 zoom meeting, or reach out to me by email. A folder is available on Bb called “Student Support Resources” that has links to help support you both academically and personally.

ATTENDANCE:

Will be taken at of each synchronized meeting. Virtual participation in these zoom meetings is incorporated into your grade. Note that class attendance, although all virtual and done remotely, is important to learning the concepts and information presented. Attendance/participation will be taken for College Census purposes as well as for a grade.

Make-up exams and assignments WILL NOT be given except where university policy dictates.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY:

Exams will be given through Blackboard using Respondus Lockdown Browser. These are to be completed individually and without any external references (online resources, cell phones, tablets, books, or any other help outside of your brain).

Academic dishonesty will **not** be tolerated. If any evidence of academic dishonesty is discovered, the procedures described in the college policy will be followed to the letter.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES POLICY:

Any breach of academic integrity is unacceptable. Academic misconduct as defined by the BSU student handbook will automatically result in: 1) a report of the offense to Academic Affairs, 2) a zero score on the relevant evaluation tool (assignment, exam, quiz, paper, etc.)



for first offense, and 3) course failure for second and subsequent offenses. Misconduct involving multicomponent evaluation tools (e.g., assignments with multiple drafts) will result in, at minimum, a zero score for the relevant component. Review BSU's Academic Integrity Policy at: <http://catalog.bridgew.edu/content.php?catoid=8&navoid=632>

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY AND COURTESY: According to the BSU Academic Honesty Policy “Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following: presenting another's work as if it were one's own; deliberately failing to acknowledge or document a source even if the action is unintended (i.e., plagiarism); giving or receiving, or attempting to give or receive, unauthorized assistance or information in an assignment or examination; fabricating data; submitting the same assignment in two or more courses without prior permission of the respective instructors; or having another person write a paper or sit for an examination.”

CAMPUS STUDENT RESOURCES:

- Academic Achievement
Center:<https://studentbridgew.sharepoint.com/sites/AcademicAchievementCenter>
- Wellness Center and Counseling:
<https://studentbridgew.sharepoint.com/sites/Wellness-Center>
- Maxwell Library:
<https://studentbridgew.sharepoint.com/sites/AcademicAchievementCenter>

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

AAC provides students with academic services and resources that propel them toward successful and timely degree completion. With all services available online for the fall, the AAC is the largest hub of student academic services on campus. The AAC is comprised of four major support areas: Academic Advising (first-semester freshmen), Disability Resources and student accessibility services, Learning Assistance (Academic Coaching and Tutoring),



and Testing Services. To use the virtual drop-in tutoring or to make an appointment for Tutoring or Academic Coaching, please sign into our platform, [Accudemia](https://bridgew.accumedia.net), using your BSU credentials, or bookmark the link: <https://bridgew.accumedia.net>.

ZOOM MEETINGS

You are required to attend three scheduled class meetings during the semester. These are accessed through our Bb site. I will not require you to turn on your video during these times. It would be wonderful to see your face and get to know you, however I respect your privacy. Know that I will turn on the chat to allow you to communicate with me or privately with other students during these meetings. My requirement is that we all treat one another with respect and commit ourselves to the mutual well-being of one another.

It is important to see me ASAP concerning any problems you may be having in this course~

If you tell me you are having trouble, I am not going to judge you or think less of you...

and I hope you will extend me the same grace.

GRADE DETERMINATION & ASSESSMENT:

Three highest Exams	15% each / 45% total
Lowest Exam	11%
Group Presentation	12% (6% collaborative and 6% individual effort)
Q&A Participation	2% total (or 4 questions asked at 0.5% each)
Podcast Summaries (4)	3% each / 12% total
Online Assignments (4)	3% each / 12% total
Virtual Participation	2% each /6% total

Group Presentations (12%)



Students will work in groups of two or three to complete this assignment. I have randomly assigned each student to a group number through Blackboard. Presentations will be given on the last Wednesday of the course. Each group will be responsible to present a cohesive 10 to 15 minute PPT presentation using Zoom that will be graded on a rubric scale. Each group will be assigned their topic during our first course meeting; these will cover one of my lectures of the week(s) prior. Presentation should include: 1) Brief overview of the system/topic 2) Discuss a current issues/scientific advances (1 per group member) on your topic in the world today as it relates to human biology 3) Provide references including peer-reviewed papers. Your grade will be divided up into your collaborative group effort (6%) and individual effort (6%). Equal participation is expected. Feedback from all group members will be evaluated. Submission of your presentations **must** be in **PPT format** and **submitted through Blackboard** by 4:00pm the day of your presentation.

Q&A Participation (2%)

After each group presentation, you will have the opportunity to ask a question on the chat to the presenters. I will be monitoring these questions and grading you on your participation in this portion of the course. Asking 4 questions will give you full credit.

Assignments

These are to be done individually and should be submitted on Bb by due date in syllabus. Four times during the summer session you will be given an assignment through Bb, in the format of a Sway. Each assignment has a downloadable word document that allows you to type your answers in the gray-ed out boxes. The Sway contains the links to videos and readings required to answer all questions in the coinciding word document. These assignments are meant to broaden your understanding of a system or topic discussed in class and a question or two about the topic may appear on an exam.



Science Podcast Assignments (12% total)

Four times through the semester you will be assigned to listen to 1 Science/fact-based broadcasts. Links to the episodes will be made available to you through our course Blackboard site under date. Episodes can be accessed through any podcast app or online via link. The week prior to each exam, you will submit on Bb a 2 paragraph (min) summary for each of the podcasts assigned. You must also include, for each episode, 3 scientific terms used in the episode and their definition. This must be done individually, and Safe Assign will be used on all submissions. If plagiarism of any kind is identified, then a zero will be given to that student for a grade. There is a template on Bb to help you.

Exams (56% total)

Each of the four exams will be based on our lectures and possibly a general question from the coinciding assignment. A Review Sheet will be made available on our Blackboard site at the same time the lectures are available. No exam will be cumulative, however in human biology concepts build upon each other and retaining knowledge is imperative to being successful in this course. Exams will be taken individually and will be timed (90 min). Questions will be multiple choice, fill in the blank, true/false and short essay. Exams are normally 50 questions and 5–10 short essays. **Exams are closed book**, meaning no outside material is allowed during the time you take the exam. Refer to schedule for specific days/times exams will be available.

In the beginning of each week a **Study Guide** will become available to you on Bb. Anything covered in that study guide (which asks questions from our lectures) is fair game for the exam. Completing and using this study guide will help you greatly when it comes to the exam.

All exams will require you to use **Respondus Lockdown Browser**. Note that Chromebooks do not support this browser. This browser prevents the test taker from printing, copying, or going



to another URL during the time they are taking the test. Tests must be taken within Respondus Browser – no other standard web browser will allow you to access the test/exam.

Two days prior to an exam a Mock Exam will be made available for you. These are not graded and do not add or hurt your grade but are a sample of 10 or so questions that will help prepare you for the real exam. These will also require Respondus Browser. You are only required to do the first Mock exam to make sure Respondus works.

Course Schedule for Biology: A Human Approach (BIOL 110)

Asynchronous Lectures	Synchronous Meetings Required to meet on Zoom (Time will be announced on class)
Completed own your own during week assigned	
Exam I: Science & Society <i>thru</i> Muscular system	
Exam II: Heart <i>thru</i> Respiratory	
Exam III: Digestive <i>thru</i> Developmental Biology	
Exam IV: Endocrine <i>thru</i> Evolution	

Week 1	Science & Society	Assignment 1 & Podcast 1 Summary
	Introduction to Course	
	Cell to Tissues to Organs	
	Skeletal & Muscular Systems	
	EXAM I on Bb	
Week 2	Heart, Blood Vessels & Blood	Assignment 2 &
	Immune System	



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	Respiratory System	Podcast 2 Summary
	EXAM II on Bb	
	Digestive System	
Week 3	Urinary & Reproductive Systems & Developmental Biology	Assignment 3 & Podcast 3 Summary
	EXAM III on Bb	
	Endocrine System	
	Nervous System	
Week 4	Genetics	Assignment 4 & Podcast 4 Summary
	Human Ecology & Evolution	
	Group Presentations on zoom	
	Exam IV on Bb	