Lecture Instructor:

Katherine Cullen
Department of Biology
Science Center K200C
440–775–6725
kcullen@oberlin.edu

Drop-in office hours: Mon 10:15 – 11:45 am; Wed 11:30 am – 1:00 pm; or other times by appt (contact me via e-mail to set up a time)

Lab Instructors:

Jane Bennett
Department of Biology
Science Center A137
440–775–8325
jbennett@oberlin.edu
Office Hours by appt and Tues - Fri 11–12:00 pm

Keith Tarvin
Department of Biology
Science Center A130
440–775–8306
keith.tarvin@oberlin.edu
Office Hours Mon 2:30-3:30 pm, Wed 9:30-10:30 am, and Thurs 3-4:30 pm. Sign up at https://docs.google.com/a/oberlin.edu/spreadsheets/d/1ZGbKNq7XwlkDhggnRf80I0w72-twHzfS-dcDJ3c5E8/edit?usp=sharing

Course Description:
BIOL 100 Organismal Biology
Full Course; Credits: 4 hours; Attributes: 4NS, QFR

This course provides prospective biology majors and others with an integrated introduction to the biology of organisms, from the subcellular level, through the cellular, tissue, organ, and whole organismal level. Students must register for both lecture and laboratory.

Learning objectives for this course:
In this course, we aim to help you:

1. Apply physical and chemical principles to explain physiological processes
2. Appreciate the ways in which the structure of molecules, cells, and organs defines their function
3. Understand the basic ways that organisms obtain, store, and use energy and materials
4. Understand the major problems that organisms face and some of the primary solutions that have evolved to address those problems
5. Use quantitative and formal reasoning to understand biological phenomena
6. Develop an understanding of the nature of science and of the process of scientific inquiry
Primary Texts:
2. Lab Manual. An in-house laboratory manual will be available for purchase from Ms. Colley (Sci Ctr K123, M to F, from 8:30 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:30 pm. It is not back from the printer yet, but when it is I will let you know, as well as the exact cost. In the past it has been ~$10, and you may pay by cash or check (checks made out to Oberlin College Biology). It is imperative that you have a copy of this year’s edition of the manual. Older editions will not be useful. Get your manual as soon as possible; you’ll need it before the first lab.

Format of the Course

**Lectures:** During lectures I will present material introducing each of the major topics of the course. Attendance is expected and without documentation of an illness or unexpected emergency, you will not be allowed to make up any in-class assignments that you miss by not attending a lecture. I will lead us through the content based on the readings and other material. *Take good notes, but not at the expense of listening carefully to the material as it is presented.* During most lectures I will assign homework designed to encourage you to think about the material in between lectures or to prepare you for beginning a new topic. During some class periods we will engage in learning activities other than lecture. I will post images of my Powerpoint presentations on Blackboard after each lecture. I will also post announcements and often use Blackboard for homework or other assignments. You are responsible for learning how to access and use Blackboard and for checking it regularly for announcements and assignments.

**Labs:** Organismal Biology Lab meets once per week. You must attend the lab section for which you are registered. Because of seating limitations and other factors, you cannot attend a lab in which you are not registered unless you first get permission from the instructors for your lab section and the one you want to attend. Because of the complexities of preparing the materials for laboratory exercises, you can only make up a lab within the same week as the lab you miss, and *this can only be done with prior approval by your lab instructor*. Lab assignments will be turned into your lab instructor, and will count for 25% of your overall grade for this course.

**Assessment and grades:** I will assess your performance in the course and your mastery of the material via four in-class exams, a variety of in-class and take-home assignments and problems, and a final exam. A portion of the final will cover material from the last several lectures, and a portion of the final will be comprehensive.

**Component of Grade**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component of Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams (4 @ 100 points each)</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assignments/problems</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory assignments</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>800</strong></td>
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After calculating total points and percentage, your final grade might be bumped up/down by as much as 3.3% based on your prompt attendance, class participation, and intellectual engagement in the course. Questions regarding the grading or scoring on an exam or assignment must be submitted in writing within one week of its return.
Communication: I will do my best to post all announcements on Blackboard. Please check daily. The best way to get in touch with me outside of class is via email, though you are welcome to call me on my office phone (440–775–6725). I will occasionally use email to contact you as well.

Additional Resources To Help You Do Well In This Course

Materials on Blackboard: I will post Powerpoint slides from my lectures following each class period. Because my slides typically consist of images, questions, and outline material, it’s unlikely you will get much from the slides if you do not also attend the lecture. I will post a list of learning goals after we complete each topic. These learning goals can be used as a study guide for exams, thus I will not provide you with a separate “study guide.” Use these to assess your comprehension of the material on a regular basis. I also will post the syllabus, many of the assignments, and other course materials on Blackboard.

Office Hours: My drop-in office hours are listed at the top of the first page of this syllabus. You are welcome to meet with me during office hours without an appointment. If you are unable to make any of my office hours, I am happy to meet at another time by appointment. E-mail me to set up a meeting outside of office hours. I encourage you to visit my office hours any time, regardless of whether your questions are big or small. My objective is to help you learn how to learn the material for this course, and I enjoy meeting with students in office hours. Please come by!

CLEAR Center for drop-in tutoring for help with quantitative aspects of the course: The Center for Learning, Education and Research in the Sciences (CLEAR) is an interdepartmental resource dedicated to helping students with quantitative material in their courses. The Quantitative Skills Drop-In Tutoring Center offers evening drop-in hours where peer tutors can help you with quantitative aspects of the course. See the CLEAR Website for updated hours, locations, and frequently asked questions (Science Library Group Study Room and Mudd 052, Sundays through Thursdays 7-1100 pm). They can help you with graphs, spreadsheets, equations, and components of the course that have a quantitative aspect.

In addition to drop-in tutoring in the CLEAR center our section of BIOL 100 has a dedicated course tutor. Anah Soble is a junior biology major with interests in evolutionary biology and ecology. She has worked as an OWLS workshop leader for the past two years and would be happy to assist with both studying for this course and with any questions about the biology major. She will have hours in the CLEAR center that I will post when her schedule is set. If you have any questions for her or need assistance you can also contact her at asoble@oberlin.edu.

Tutors: The College can provide you with a free tutor for this course. Please talk to me if you feel you need additional assistance and I will help you arrange for a tutor through the Student Academic Services office (Peters 118, 440–775–6724).

Other aspects of the course:

Class starts promptly at 9:00 am. Please be on time. Late arrivals are rude and disruptive.

Attendance Policy: You will not do well in this class if you do not come to the lectures. We often will discuss material that is not explicit in my Powerpoint slides or in the readings. Therefore, I expect you to attend all the lectures.
**Honor Code:** As members of the Oberlin College Community, each of us is expected to adhere to the Honor Code. Please familiarize yourself with this code. You can view it online in your Blackboard site: Log on to Blackboard, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on “Honor System”.

The following text was taken from The Honor Code and The Honor System Charter:

> At the end of each academic exercise students shall write in full and sign the **Honor Pledge:** "I affirm that I have adhered to the Honor Code in this assignment."

> If a student does not follow the appropriate procedure, faculty members have the option of withholding the grade until the student writes the Honor Pledge correctly, although they may not penalize students for an oversight.

*You will need to pledge the honor code on every assignment that you turn in. Even if an assignment is submitted electronically, please type out this pledge and your name before submitting.*

I will do my best to be clear regarding what is permitted or not permitted when completing assignments or exams. If you have any questions as to whether or not something would be a violation of the honor code, please ask!

**Special Needs.** Please speak with me as soon as possible if you have special needs so we can make any necessary accommodations. If you have not already, you should also be in touch with Jane Boomer, Coordinator for Students with Disabilities, Room G27, Peters Hall (440–775–5588; jane.boomer@oberlin.edu). All discussions between you and Ms. Boomer remain confidential, and I will only receive information that describes the type of accommodation needed.
Please print: Are you registered for the course? Y N

Lecture section: MWF 9, MWF 10, TR 9:35 (circle one)

Last name:_________________________ Class (Fr., So., Jr., Sr.):_________________________

First name:_________________________

Declared or intended major:_________________________

Assigned lab section (check one) If unregistered, please check all sections you could attend

Tues. 1:30-4:30 pm_______ Thurs. 1:30-4:30 pm_______

Wed. 1:30-4:30 pm_______ Fri. 1:30-4:30 pm_______

Do you need to switch labs?_______ Which section do you need?_____________________

Why must you change labs?__________________________________________________________

Can you change lab sections?_______ To which section(s)?______________________________

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