

**BIOL 1107K - Principle**

(available in the bookstore) **or** a Turning Technologies License and a Response Ware App from Google store (preferred). All students are responsible for having their clickers with them in class. Points accumulated during lecture and attendance records are generated by clickers. If you do not bring your clicker, no points will be recorded for your participation. **No quiz grade make ups are allowed or excused**☺.

Clicker, Responseware and Turningpoint registration info is posted at:

## COMMUNICATION:

**Email:** Email is the simplest and primary way to contact me outside of class and is the quickest way for me to contact you as well. All email should be sent directly to [jfelder@valdosta.edu](mailto:jfelder@valdosta.edu). You are required to check and maintain your Valdosta State University email account. I will only communicate with you through this official email account. Do NOT email using the Blazeview system.

**Blazeview:** We will be using Blazeview throughout the semester as a tool for sharing class and grade information. I will post course **tentative grades** as well as any necessary **class materials and announcements**. It is the student's responsibility to routinely check Blazeview for posted announcements and to review grades as they are reported. All official course information is located on Blazeview and students are expected to regularly access the Blazeview website. "I didn't know" will not be an accepted excuse for missing dates, deadlines or errors.

Note that I use the Blazeview site grade sheet **only to report tentative grades** to you. I do not use it to actually calculate final grades. I use a separate spreadsheet.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** You are expected to attend all scheduled course activities, and active participation is part of your course grade. Because of the nature and structure of the class, attendance is vital to your success in the course. The student is responsible for all material and assignments missed regardless of the reason for absences. We will strictly adhere to **XU's policy** on attendance which states: "A student who **misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes of a course will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course**" (Undergraduate Catalog). **Also note that the instructor is required to file the last date of attendance for any student failing the course. This information is used by financial aid authorities to assess potential payback of aid funds.**

**BIOLOGY TUTORING:** The Student Success Center (SSC)

**Office is located in Farbar Hall.** The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871 (VP) and 229-219-1348 (TTY). For more information, please visit VSU's Access Office or email: [access@valdosta.edu](mailto:access@valdosta.edu).

**TITLE IX STATEMENT:** Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued, respected, and included. Valdosta State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including pregnancy status, sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations such as Title IX. The individual designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: **Maggie Viverette, Director of the Office of Social Equity**, [titleix@valdosta.edu](mailto:titleix@valdosta.edu), 1208 N. Patterson St., Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31608, 229-333-5463.

**Important Dates:**

- < August
- < 1<sup>st</sup> class: Monday 13<sup>th</sup>
- <

- II. Electronics:** Use of cellular telephones, pagers, or any similar remote communication device is prohibited during scheduled lectures, laboratories, or examinations.
- a. If it is essential to take an emergency, incoming call, then quietly step outside and conduct your business like an adult. Otherwise, students who bring cellular telephones or similar devices to lecture must switch them off prior to the beginning of the lecture period.
  - b. Phones may not be used as calculators on exams.
  - c. Lecture notes may not be photographed or recorded with phone or computer cameras.
  - d. The penalty for using a phone to text, talk, record lecture notes or during an exam is failure of the course.
  - e. No electronic devices (including cell phones), books, or notebooks will be allowed during exams. Students using such items will be asked to leave and will receive a zero for the exam.
  - f. Laptop computers can be used for note taking during lecture; however, students using them must sit in the first four rows of the classroom. Anyone caught cruising the net instead of taking notes will receive a failing grade for the course.

**III. Cheating:** Students caught cheating will receive a grade of “F” for the assignment in question and possibly for the course. Cheating will be reported to the Dean of Students. See your Student handbook for what constitutes catalogue cheating and plagiarism.

**IV. Procedure for exams and quizzes:**

- a. You must be on time. Students arriving more than 10 minute late may not take the exam and will receive a grade of zero.
- b. No talking will be allowed during the exam, however students are welcome to come to the instructor’s desk to ask questions about clarification of questions on the exam.
- c. Each student will be given an exam to be completed and handed back to the instructor.
- d. You must bring a pencil and will take the exam during the stated lecture time only.
- e. No electronic devices or aids are allowed during exams. Use constitutes cheating and will result in dismissal and failure of the course.
- f. A student with more than a single clicker in their possession during any lecture class or exam

- detailed and technical information that must be mastered.
- iii. Biology, as is true for any science, has a large amount of technical terminology that must be mastered.
  - iv. It is not sufficient to simply “memorize” the facts and terminology, but one must also understand the many concepts relevant to modern biology.
- b. I understand that my **grades are based solely upon my level of performance**, not on what I may want or think I need.
- i. Students do not get a grade simply by attending.
  - ii. Students must work at achieving their desired grade.
  - iii. Work means putting in significant amounts of study time. Many hours repeatedly going over the material.
  - iv. Goofing off and poor attendance usually means failing the course.
- c. It is my responsibility to understand or seek out clarification for any assignments or requirements for this class. I did not understand is **NOT** an excuse.
- i. That includes registering my response device in a proper and timely manner. No allowance will be made for not having a properly registered, active device.
  - ii. That includes being on time.
  - iii. That includes being responsible for ALL class materials.
  - iv. That includes routinely checking grades on Blazeview and reporting any possible errors in a timely fashion.
- d.

are not appropriate behaviors.

- s. I understand that my **grade will be based on the criteria** detailed earlier in this syllabus and that it is my responsibility to seek clarification if it is needed.
- t. I understand that this course will assign grades on a **10 point scale and no curve** is to be used in assigning those grades.
- u. I understand that the instructor cannot and will not predict nor promise any grades before all scores for all assignments are done and the class is completed.
- v. I understand that the instructor will only discuss my final grade for purposes of explanation or correction of a possible mistake. Discussions about disappointment with grades, complaints about grades, grade changes or general whining about poor performance will not be entertained.

**From the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs:**

**Examples of Disruptive Behaviors that Migh**

academic dishonesty has occurred shall (1) gather all pertinent information, and (2) meet with the student or students involved, and (3) inform the student or students of the academic response to an alleged violat 7(ol)7(a)-13(tb2