



in student polls that quiz you on the material being covered in real time. The iClicker Cloud allows you to participate using your mobile phone, laptop, or tablet device. Instructions on how to register for this system will be given in the first lecture.

Technology Statement: In this class, students will regularly use the following applications:

1. Office 365 for access to VSU email and to Microsoft applications that we will use regularly (Outlook, Teams, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.).
2. BlazeVIEW to access course materials
3. Achieve on-line learning system and iClicker Cloud response system as described above.

Although students can use their mobile phones to access these applications it might be preferable for to use a laptop or desktop computer. Computer labs can be found in Bailey Science Center, rooms 3018 and 3019.

IT provides a list of recommended technologies at

<https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/it/helpdesk/personal-devices/recommended-technologies.php>

VSU students may download and install Microsoft Office 365 on up to 5 personal devices

### Explanation of Lecture Assignments:

**Lecture Exams:** Students will have 75 minutes to complete each exam. A total of 4-unit exams will be given during the semester. A cumulative final exam will be administered during finals week. The dates are included in the tentative schedule at the end of the syllabus. All exams will be in a multiple-choice format. I typically allow make-up exams for university-related events or approved medical/personal issues. If you become ill, please email me ASAP. If you know you will miss an exam for a university-related reason, please contact me ahead of time to discuss an appropriate date for scheduling your make-up exam. All missed exams must be taken within 1-week of the original exam date and missed exams cannot be taken during regular scheduled lecture time.

**Achieve Quizzes:** There will be a HW assignment for each chapter covered during the semester which will be administered through the Achieve learning platform. The due dates will be announced in class and posted to the Calendar in Blazeview. Your 10 highest homework grades will count towards your course homework grade. These assignments are open book and you are given multiple opportunities to answer each question but your score is reduced by 0.5% each time you miss a question. Question formats will be varied and will include: multiple choice, labeling, ranking, and other types of questions. It is very important that you organize your schedule so that you know when each assignment is due and that you give yourself sufficient time to complete each assignment.

**iClicker Polling Questions:** In this course we will utilize iClicker Cloud polling technology to increase class engagement during lecture. Polling questions will provide you a chance to receive immediate feedback on your understanding and interpretation of important biological principles. Polling questions will begin the second week of class.

The number of iClicker questions could vary per lecture. You will receive 1 point for each poll question that you answer in class (correctly or incorrectly). You must answer at least 50% of the iClicker questions during a given class session in order to earn full credit (5 points) for that day.

It is your responsibility to remember your device (phone, laptop, tablet) and to make sure it is charged. Do not come up to me after class to tell me you were in class, or to give me a piece of paper with the responses. You only earn the points by responding using the web-based

Notes on grading: Students should note that a grade of "A" in this course represents an exemplary command of the material covered. To obtain this grade of excellence, it is recommended that students study daily and clarify with their instructor any problems regarding course information, as they arise.

Biology Tutoring: The Academic Support Center (ASC) at Valdosta State University is located on the second floor of the Odum Library. The ASC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The ASC also provides periodic workshops covering topics such as time management and study skill development. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit their website at <https://www.valdosta.edu/asc/>

Academic conduct: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in a failing grade for the assignment, exam or the class.

Lecture Conduct:

- Arrive on time

- Turn off/silence cell phones during class and lab.

- Remove headphones and earbuds while in lecture and during exams.

- Don't talk during lecture except during active learning exercises or asking a question

- Avoid leaving class early

- iClicker questions only answered by those physically present in the lecture hall. Do not email, text, instant message, or communicate with those not in

Procedure for exams:

- No books, electronic devices, or notebooks will be allowed during exams and students using such items will be asked to leave and will receive a zero for the exam.

- No talking will be allowed during the exam

- Each student will be given an exam to be completed and handed back to the instructor.

- Students must bring a pencil and will take the exam during the stated lecture time only.

- NOTE: You will have the class time only to complete each lecture exam.

SOI Syllabus Statement: At the end of the term, all students will be expected to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available through SmartEvals. Students will receive an email notification through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous to instructors/administrators, and they will be able to access results only after they

Student identification: Students should have in their possession at all times their VSU student identification card. In order to verify the identification of students officially enrolled in the course, it is the instructor's prerogative to request official student photo identification cards at any time during lecture. During examinations, students will routinely be asked to display their VSU student identification cards visibly on the desktop and to make them available for inspection by their instructor and/or assistants.

Privacy Act (FERPA): The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits the public posting of grades by social security number or in any manner personally identifiable to the individual student. No grades can be given over the telephone or over email because positive identification can't be made.

Accommodations Statement:

## Tentative Lecture Schedule, BIOL 1108, Section A, Fall 2023

Date	Topics	Chapter
Aug. 14	Syllabus	Syllabus; 20
Aug. 16	Phylogenies and History of Life	20
Aug. 21	Seedless Plants	25
Aug. 23	Seedless Plants	25
Aug. 28	Seed Plants	26
Aug. 30	Plant form and Physiology	30
Sep. 4	Labor Day - No Class	
Sep. 6	Plant form and Physiology	30
Sep. 11	Exam #1	(Ch. 20, 25, 26, 30)
Sep. 13	Soil and Plant Nutrition	31
Sep. 18	Plant Reproduction	32
Sep. 20	Animal Body: Basic Form and Function;	33
Sep. 25		

#### Valdosta State University General Educational Outcomes (GEO)

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the society of the United States and its ideals.
2. Students will demonstrate cross-cultural perspectives and knowledge of other societies.
3. Students will use computer and information technology when appropriate.
4. Students will express themselves clearly, logically and precisely in writing and in speaking, and they will demonstrate competence in reading and listening.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of scientific and mathematical principles and proficiency in laboratory practices.
6. Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultural heritages in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, to evaluate, and to make inferences from oral, written and visual materials.
8. Students will demonstrate knowledge of principles of ethics and their employment in the analysis and resolution of moral problems.
9. Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.

#### Department of Biology Educational Outcomes (BEO)

1. Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions in both written and oral format used in peer- reviewed journals and at scientific meetings.
2. Describe the evolutionary process responsible for biological diversity, explain the phylogenetic relationships among the other taxa of life, and provide illustrative examples.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the cellular basis of life.
4. Relate the structure and function of DNA/RNA to the development of form and function of the organism and to heredity
5. Interpret ecological data pertaining to the behavior of the individual organism in its natural environment; to the structure and function of populations, communities, and ecosystems; and to human impacts on these systems and the environment.