Biology 105 – Biological Concepts: Unity

Fall 2012 Laboratory Syllabus

Sections A01L, A06L, A07L and E01L

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Office Hours: Monday 1:50-2:50, Tuesday 10:00-11:00, Thursday 8:30-9:30 and Friday 11:30-12:30 or by appointment**.**

Text: Biology 105: Concepts in Biology: Unity, Laboratory Manual (Fall 2012). Please read the current exercise in the lab manual and the suggested textbook pages before coming to lab.

Lab materials: You must buy the lab manual and bring it to lab each week. Please bring a calculator to lab. Cell phones cannot be used as calculators.

Attendance: Attendance in lab is mandatory. Unexcused absences will result in 5-10 points being deducted from your grade. If you cannot be present for lab, please contact me by e-mail. If you have a university sanctioned excuse (loss of an immediate family member, participation in university-sponsored athletic or academic event, or military commitments) then **YOU** must arrange with another lab instructor to go to another lab during the same week.

Grading: Your grade in lab counts for one-third of the points toward your Bio 105 grade. Lab reports or worksheets, quizzes and attendance in my lab are worth 200 points. Your group will hand in four lab reports each worth 20 points. You will take ten D2L quizzes each worth 10 points. Lab participation is worth 20 points. I will give my grade to the lecture instructor as a percentage and he/she will convert that to points based upon their own grading scheme.

Lab Reports: Unless instructed otherwise, each lab group is responsible for writing a report to be handed in at the end of the lab period. You must follow the format for lab reports that is in your lab manual. Please use the report forms and graph paper provided at the back of your lab manual. Be sure to write legibly with an eye towards correct spelling

and grammar. Reports must include the following five elements (each worth 5 points):

1) Hypothesis: The hypothesis is a simple and testable statement that proposes an explanation for your observations. It is not the same as your predictions. Do not write an if/then statement.

2) Proposed Experiment and Controls: Describe the experiment to be done, listing all the necessary steps and controls. Your description should be detailed enough that another group could repeat your work.

3) Predicted Results and Rationale: State the results you expect to observe based on your hypothesis and **WHY** you expect these results. Predictions are based on initial observations and must not include information obtained from your actual experiment.

4) Actual Results (including tables and/or graphs if applicable): Present your results in this section. Provide a written description of your results as well as graphs, tables or other figures.

5) Conclusions: Summarize the overall results with a conclusion based on those results. The conclusion should be evident from you data. Describe how your results support/refute your hypothesis. If the observations did not support your hypothesis present a new hypothesis, and briefly describe an experiment to test your new hypothesis.

Quizzes: The lab quizzes will be taken on D2L each week. They will test your understanding of the concepts covered in the previous lab(s) and the basic concepts of the upcoming lab. Each quiz will be due no later than 10:30 pm the day preceding lab

Cheating: Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Students are subject to the UWO Student Discipline Code if they engage in any form of academic dishonesty. This code is available at http://www.uwosh.edu/stuaff/images/student-discipline-code .

Lab rules: Eating is not allowed in the laboratory. Students may bring a water bottle to class only during labs where bacteria are not being handled. Cell phones and music players should be turned off and stowed in a purse or backpack. Our lab time is limited and cell phones in use will be confiscated until the lab period is over. Relax and enjoy learning biology!