



## **College Biology: Concurrent Enrollment in ARCC BIOL 1100**

**Unifying Concepts in Biology / Coon Rapids Campus**

**Instructor:** Michael Cartwright

**Contact info:** [michael.cartwright@moundsviewschools.org](mailto:michael.cartwright@moundsviewschools.org)

**Phone Number:** 651-621-7193

**Class website:** Google Classroom

**Office/ classroom:** Mounds View High School, room 200

**Office Hours (Best time to get help):** ReFLECT HOURS, before school, after school

**Start and End Date:** 9/9/2021 - 6/9/2022

Last date to Add/Drop: 9/22/2021

Last date to Withdraw: 4/21/2022

Welcome to Anoka Ramsey Community College Biology at Mounds View High School! You have chosen to challenge yourself through a detailed study of biology - the study of life. This course will hopefully be different from any science course you have experienced, in terms of the topics we study and the depth we study them at. You will learn a great deal about biology and, in the process, you should learn even more about yourself. I promise that if you work with me and allow yourself to be open and vulnerable in this class, biology is not going to be just another class you need to pass, but a class that you will enjoy!

Like any college science course, this class requires the ability to independently analyze laboratory experiments and a commitment to individual study. It should help prepare you for future challenging courses, either science or non-science.

### **Course Topics**

-An introduction to biology

-Biochemistry

-Cells

-DNA and Protein Synthesis

-Genetics

-Evolution and biodiversity

-Ecology

-Human Impacts on the Environment

-Anatomy and Physiology

-and more!



**Academic dishonesty** will not be tolerated. You will be evaluated on your performance, not on work someone else has done. See MVHS Student Handbook (and ARCC Student Code of Conduct) for further details.

*Note: In addition to MVHS consequences, all acts of cheating and plagiarism will be reported to Anoka Ramsey Community College's Dean of Educational Services. You will then be subjected to sanctions outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and a record of the incident will go in your permanent academic file.*

**Grading:** Your semester grade will be determined as follows:

<20% - **Practice:** (practice questions, other assignments, select quizzes)

>80% - **Performance:** (includes the following)  
 Unit Assessments (tests, quizzes)  
 Presentations / Projects  
 Laboratory activities and reports  
 Final Semester Test

**Grading Scale:**

- In this course, we use equal interval grading to assess student progress (PBL).
- The purpose of the equal interval scale is to encourage proficiency rather than the accumulation of points and to support student growth over the course of the semester.

Individual Assignment Grade Configuration	
Gradebook Entry	Description
4	<b>Mastery</b> Went beyond the basic requirements for proficiency
3	<b>Proficiency</b> Met all the basic requirements for proficiency.
2	<b>Developing</b> Met some basic requirements for proficiency
1	<b>Limited Understanding</b> Met very few basic requirements for proficiency.
0	<b>Insufficient Evidence</b> Didn't show enough work to demonstrate proficiency
M	<b>Missing</b> Evidence of Proficiency



A	3.40	4.00
A-	3.20	3.39
B+	3.01	3.19
B	2.59	3.00
B-	2.45	2.58
C+	2.24	2.44
C	2.11	2.23
C-	2.00	2.10
D+	1.84	1.99
D	1.67	1.83
D-	1.50	1.66
I	0.00	1.49

### **ARCC Biology Relearning Opportunity Policy**

Grades communicate academic achievement based on performance (tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, reports, etc.) for this class. Practice such as class work, learning experiences, and teacher feedback will prepare you for these tasks. However, when a score on a practice assessment, for example, does not represent accurately what you know, understand, and can do, a relearning plan will be developed. Relearning plans are designed to give you a relearning opportunity in an assessment that was designed for you to master prior to the unit test. The score on any retake will replace your score on the original assessment.

The following tests/tasks in this class are eligible for a retake if necessary

--Quizzes (2nd score will replace 1st);

--Select portions of labs, projects, and other class activities/assignments



The following items in this class are **NOT** eligible for a retake:

- Unit Tests\*
- Presentations
- Semester Final Exams

\*One Unit test per semester may be retaken.

### **Work Turn-In Policy**

All work turned in on or before the **DUE DATE** will be eligible for full credit. Any work turned in before the **DEADLINE** may be assessed a 10% late penalty. Unless otherwise notified, the **DEADLINE** will be the date of the unit test. Any work turned in after the **DEADLINE** is not eligible for credit.

### **Expected Homework**

As this is a college course and you are receiving college credit, we will need to maintain the pace/rigor equivalent to the same course at Anoka Ramsey Community College even though we may be in an online/hybrid school situation.

As is traditional with college courses, you should expect homework each night. This will include learning from a variety of resources.

Success in this course will be directly related to reading comprehension and mastery, as well as work completion. *Keeping up with assigned reading/work will be crucial to your success.*

### **Absences/ Make-up work**

If you have an excused absence, you should attempt to catch up as soon as possible. Please review the MVHS handbook on policies for absences and make-up work. Although everything we do in class may not be on Google Classroom, please check Google Classroom to see posted assignments.

### **Assistance**

If you need to make something up or come in for help, please come in sooner rather than later! I am available most days before and after school. If needed, we can also set up a Google Meet.



### **Study together!**

Learning is a social process, and studying in groups can be beneficial. Call / email / zoom/google meet / facetime / text / tweet / instagram/ snap etc. with your fellow students to ask for help or study with them! I am happy to help you as well, but I want you to remember the importance of human interaction in your education. In one way or another, get your questions answered, get help, and stay caught up!

A word of caution... remember when working together to teach, not tell. If someone is asking for help, teach them the information, as opposed to telling them the answer.

**Please note:** I am responsible for meeting the requirements of both Mounds View Public Schools and Anoka Ramsey Community College. I reserve the right to change the course or my policies to meet the requirements of one or both of the aforementioned parties at any time.

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### **Course Information**

**Semester Credit Value: 4 Credits (at ARCC)**

**Required textbook (*provided*): Biology: the Unity and Diversity of Life, 13<sup>th</sup> edition  
(Starr, Taggart, Evers, and Starr)**

**Recommended materials:** 3-ring binder, highlighters, colored pens/skinny markers

**Course description (from ARCC catalog):**

[An] "introductory course designed to teach the process of science as it applies to biology today. Topics in biology that will be covered include heredity, evolution, and ecosystems. Three lecture hours per week and 10 three-hour labs during the semester (or MVHS equivalent)" "This course is not intended for science or allied health majors (at ARCC)."



# ANOKA-RAMSEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

## Anoka Ramsey Community College Grading Scale

- A** 90-100% and met all essential outcomes (see page 2)
- B** 80-89% and met all essential outcomes
- C** 70-79% and met all essential outcomes
- D** 60-69% and met all essential outcomes
- W** withdrew before the cut off date
- F** did not withdraw & did not meet criteria for a D

## Common Course Outline

- A. Course Prefix, Number, and Title:** BIOL 1100 Unifying Concepts in Biology  
MNTC: No  Goal Area 3
- B. Semester Credit Value:** 4
- C. Prerequisites (must have a grade of C or better):** None
- D. Recommended Skills, Abilities, or Coursework:** MATH 0240 with a grade of C or better, or the appropriate score on math placement test. Ability to do college level reading and writing as demonstrated by meeting enrollment requirements for ENGL 1121.
- E. Catalog Description:**  
This is an introductory course designed to teach the process of science as it applies to biology today. Topics in biology that will be covered include heredity, evolution, and ecosystems. This course is not intended for science or allied health majors.
- F. Course Information**
1. Total classroom hours per week: 3 hours
  2. Total laboratory hours per week: 3 hours
  3. Total clinical hours per week: 0 hours
  4. Other (rehearsals, studio, etc.) hours per week: 0 hours
  5. Additional fee to student:  No  Yes
  6. Course is required for which of the following:  AA  AS  AAS  AFA  
 Certificate  No degree
  7. Specific degree or certificate names:



**G. Learner Outcomes**

1. Demonstrate a comprehension of science as a process.
2. Formulate a hypothesis, conduct and analyze an experiment, and disseminate the results.
3. Explain fundamental concepts related to biological processes.
4. Use critical thinking skills to understand, evaluate, and analyze real-life scenarios presenting major biological topics (e.g. case studies).
5. Evaluate current examples of hereditary, evolutionary, and ecological processes.

**H. Major Areas of Course Content**

1. Science as a process:
  - a. Experimental design
  - b. Collecting, analyzing, and presenting data
  - c. Critical thinking
2. Heredity:
  - a. Cell cycles
  - b. Life cycles
  - c. Genes and proteins
  - d. Inheritance of traits
3. Evolution:
  - a. Natural selection
  - b. Speciation and extinction
4. Ecosystems:
  - Structure and interactions
  - Energy flow
  - Nutrient cycling

**I. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum**

Goal Area: 3

<b>Goal Area</b> —if you have more than one goal area, list each in its own cell	<b>Competencies</b> —list the letter of each Goal Area competency taught in this course	<b>Learner Outcomes</b> —list the numbers of the learner outcomes from G that relate to each of the competencies listed in the adjacent column
3	A Scientific Theories	2, 3
	B Formulate & Test Hypotheses	2
	C Communicate Findings	2
	D Evaluate issues from a Natural Science Perspective	4, 5



**J. Credit for Prior Learning Options:**

Option	Availability (Yes or No)	If “Yes,” Procedure for Granting Credit
Course-Specific Exam	No	
Credit by Portfolio Review		

Recommended entry skills/ knowledge: No prerequisites required. Good to excellent reading, writing, and math skills would be very beneficial.

Outline of content: see above under “learner outcomes, major areas of course content.”

Schedule Information: Use the calendar on the ARCC Biology website:

**Adding, Dropping, or Withdrawing from Class:**

Students may **add a course** through the **fifth** business day of the term or before the course starts, whichever is later.

Students are allowed to **drop any course** through the fifth business day of the term (courses starting after the first week of the term have an adjusted schedule). Dropped courses do not appear on a transcript and do not impact academic standing.

Students will have 5 days to determine whether or not he/she wants to **withdraw from the course** without getting a “W”. After the fifth day, a student will receive a “W” on his or her transcript through 80% of the year. Withdrawal courses appear on a transcript as a “W” and have a direct impact on academic standing.

**IMPORTANT:** If a student stops attending class but does not officially withdraw, the student will receive the grade (very likely an “F”) that is earned in the course. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from the course; the college does not assign a “W” grade for students who fail to officially withdraw.

**Accommodations for Students with Special Needs**

Mounds View Public Schools is committed to providing all students with an opportunity to be successful. This commitment is consistent with Minnesota Rule 125A.55 Accommodating Students with Disabilities Act which states that: “A school or school district shall provide a student, “who is an individual with a disability,” under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, United States Code, Title 29, Section 794, or under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law Number 101-336, with reasonable accommodations or modifications in programs.” Contact Ann Bettenburg Director of Student Services 651-621-6048.



### **How can a student be successful in this class?**

1. Use the study guides. The questions might be similar to something you see on the test!
2. Use the class website to your advantage!
3. Read the book. Especially when things are not making sense.
4. Study before tests during the unit, not the day before the unit test.
5. Work collaboratively with your peers and be invested in what you do.
6. Keep up with the pace and attend class regularly.
7. Be confident. Don't let your attitude towards a class dictate your success in that class. Have the idea that you can conquer the class and enter with the idea that you are going to succeed.
8. Take notes. We will learn to take notes in an academic and efficient way.
9. Organize your time. Take time for yourself and other things in your life. Biology is pretty much the single most amazing class ever, but most of us can't spend 12 hours a day on any subject.
10. Communicate. If you are struggling with particular subjects/concepts, come and tell me that. I don't claim to know everything and have struggled with concepts in anatomy before. It isn't natural to master a concept the first time you see it. We can find another way to make the information make sense.
11. Don't chase the A grade. The experience in high school isn't just about good grades. Good grades and setting high expectations for yourself is important, but remember to enjoy the time you spend here! Have a positive mindset everyday when you come into class and apply this mindset everyday and the A grade will take care of itself as a result of your hard work and ability to think critically and positively interact in this class.