

“Biology First Year Experience” Biology 128
Fall 2014
Harold Hoops
Tuesday 8:55 – 9:45, ICS 137

Course description:

This course is intended for students considering a major in Biology or Biochemistry. It is meant to engage students in their academic program and the college. The goals of the course are to give students a sense of community, provide help with study skills and introduce students to potential resources available at the college. 1(1-0) (S/U)

Learning outcomes

- Students will develop a sense of community both within the college and the department by being introduced to faculty, staff and other students within the department and by attending programs and meetings of campus organizations.
- Students will improve their study skills in biology and other sciences.
- Students will be introduced to the wide variety of resources available at the college.
- Students will generate a four-year curriculum plan.
- Students will explore career opportunities in Biology and the coursework and experiences needed to be competitive for their career choice.
- Students will learn what constitutes academic dishonesty and investigate SUNY-Geneseo’s policies on academic dishonesty and plagiarism.

Tentative Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assignment due
8-26	Welcome, introductions, and overview.	1) What have you heard about the first year of college? 2) Interview of classmate and present him/her to the rest of the class. 3) Find any on-line list of study skills (study guides, how to succeed etc) from the web. Bring to class on Sept 2. 4) Take on-line self exam for learning style. (The link is on MyCourses) Bring a print out of the results to class on Sept 2.
9-2	Study skills I	1) Turn results of learning style assessment. 2) Turn in a copy of your internet-discovered study guide. 3) Turn in notes on study skills session (in class)
9-9	Getting ready for exam I	1) Analyze two exam questions (in class)
9-16	Getting extra help	1) Introduce yourself to your academic advisor. Bring proof on or before 9-30 2) Attend an extra help session in any department or visit the Math or Writing

		Learning Center. Provide proof on or before 10-7.
9-23	Reviewing your first exam	1) Turn in analysis of exam questions (in class) 2) Record daily activities from 9-23 (7:00 am) to 9-30. Due in class on 9-30
9-30	Time management	1) Turn in time log 2) Turn in notes from discussion (in class) 3) Make suggested 4-year course schedule. Due in class on 10-7.
10-7	Advisement	1) Turn in suggested 4-year course schedule.
10-14	Fall break	
10-21	Excel 1 - spreadsheets Steve Dresbach, Information Technology Instructor, Library	1) Send draft spreadsheet to Hoops@genesdo.edu from class.
10-28	Excel 2 - graphing Steve Dresbach, Information Technology Instructor, Library	1) Send draft spreadsheet to Hoops@genesdo.edu from class. 2) Look up 2 different potential careers and the academic requirements for each. Bring them to class 11-4. 3) Write a “future CV” bring it to class 11-4.
11-4	Looking beyond College – Career paths and requirements needed to make them happen	1) Hand in academic requirements for two careers. 2) Hand in “future CV”.
11-11	Library training and plagiarism discussion (Tracy Paradis, Reference Instruction Librarian Library)	1) Hand in one sentence summarizing important discovery from library training. 2) Find any internet or magazine article about evolution, creationism or “intelligent design”. Bring it to class on 11-18.
11-18	Evolution and science	Hand in article about evolution, creationism or “intelligent design” (or Email it to me before class)
11-25	Areas of Opportunity Additional sources of help Career Services Academic Dean Study Abroad Counseling Service Summer Internships Dean of Students	Attend at least one of the group sessions or interview for one of these opportunities. Provide proof by 12-2
12-2	Bagels and games	Find three research articles on topic TBD. Bring or suggest a game.
12-11	8:00-11:00 Final slot	Suggestion to students entering in 2013. “What worked for me and didn’t work for me in my first semester”. This can be handed in before 12-11 or can be written as an in-class assignment that day.

Note on scheduling: This course is one designed specifically to help you get everything possible out of your time at Geneseo. We will therefore be flexible depending on your needs and events outside of this class. If you have topics you would like to discuss, or topics you would like to discuss longer, just let me know. We may do fairly significant rearrangement of times and topics.

Other significant dates are:

Bio 117 exams in O'Donnell/Spear section: Fri. 9-19, Fri 10-17, Wed 11-12, Fri 12-12

Bio 117 exams in Bandoni-Muench/Lewis section: Wed 9-17, Mon 10-20, Wed 11-12, Wed 12-10

Grading: The course will be graded as S/U (Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory). Every class period there will be some component of participation required. To obtain a satisfactory grade, you must get satisfactory participation grades for 13 sessions, both in and out of class. Note that there are 14 regular sessions plus a final meeting. If you have a legitimate reason for missing class, contact me and I will give you an alternate participation exercise. (Hint: if you do everything asked, you get to skip the final time slot!)

Classroom Etiquette: Please turn off your cell phones while in class. Using your phone to talk or text is inappropriate, except in an emergency. If in doubt ask! You may bring laptops to class but they are to be used only for classroom related tasks. Please arrive to class on time and prepared.

Instructors contact:

Harold Hoops

Office: ISC 353

Office phone: 345-5378

Email: Hoops (or Hoops@geneseo.edu if off campus)

Website: <http://www.geneseo.edu/Hoops/>

Office hours: (subject to change after spring obligations are finalized)

Mon 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tues 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Wed 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Thurs 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Fri 10:00-11:00 a.m.

I can often meet students before classes start (at 8:00 or even 7:30) by appointment.

Accommodations: SUNY Geneseo will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented physical, emotional, or cognitive disabilities. Accommodations will also be made for medical conditions related to pregnancy or parenting. Students should contact Dean Buggie-Hunt in the Office of Disability Services (tbuggieh@geneseo.edu or 585-245-5112) and their faculty to discuss needed accommodations as early as possible in the semester.