



The College of Staten Island
Department of Biology
Bio 106 - Principles of Biology I
Alexander D. McKelvy
Spring 2012
Section 2385

My Contact Information:

Alexander D. McKelvy

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Phone: (718) 982-4209

Office: 6S-116 Office Hours: By appointment

Website: <http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/~mckelvy/>

Course Meeting Times:

Monday 3:35 – 5:30pm, Friday 3:35 – 4:25pm

Room 6S-012

Please pay special attention to the academic calendar for days where classes following a Friday schedule.

Come prepared: Read your book for the upcoming section. Preparedness is key to learning. To receive college credit, you must do college level work. Course information and changes will be posted on my website listed above. I will not be using CUNY Blackboard.

Grading:

Your grade breakdown will be as follows:

Tests, Behavior and Assignments: 67%

Final Exam: 33%

I follow the very generous guidelines of the Biology Department. They are as follows:

Final Letter Grade	Quality Points Per Credit	Percent
A	4.0	90-100%
A-	3.7	88-89%
B+	3.3	85-87%
B	3.0	80-84%
B-	2.7	78-79%
C+	2.3	75-77%
C	2.0	70-74%
D	1.0	60-69%
F	0.0	0-59%

Tests:

There will be four exams during the course of the lecture, followed by a final. The final exam is not written or administered by me. To make up for this, I drop the lowest exam score from your grade. While we do build on concepts we've learned previously, tests are not usually cumulative in the strictest sense, but will usually cover the material we have talked about in class since the previous test.

Assignments:

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late assignments are not accepted. If you are unable to attend class, contact me via email before class for a time and method to turn the assignment in.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit will be sparse. As this is a college class, you're expected to complete your regular work on time and proficiently. If I feel there is a need for an extra opportunity, it will be offered to the entire class. Please do not contact me looking for individual work you can do to raise your grade.

Behavior:

Distractions are not permitted. The goal of this course is to learn introductory biological principles where you will then connect and solidify them with your lab. No cell phones, personal media players or other distractions in class at any time.

Absences (Student):

According to CUNY policy, missing more than 15% of credit hours results in an automatic failure. Please speak with me in advance about any conflicts. Make-up tests will be at my discretion. If you fail to appear at a mutually agreed time for a makeup, a third chance will be most likely forfeit.

Nothing less than a medical note stating that you were unable to attend will be accepted. Complaints of colds, headaches, sprains, strains, hangovers, late busses, abduction by aliens etc. will not be accepted.

Important note – I will not under any circumstances accept any note from a chiropractor. This field was founded in 1895 by Daniel David Palmer, a grocer and "magnetic healer" who believed that all diseases are the result of misplaced spinal bones that interfere with "innate intelligence". Chiropractors are not physicians and are not qualified to diagnose, treat or otherwise attend to any disease or affliction.

Absences (Instructor):

My research takes me into the field quite frequently and for long periods of time. In the event that I am not in New York to teach, other instructors will fill my place or class will be cancelled. Please treat them with the utmost respect, as material they cover will be on your tests.

Academic Honesty Policy:

You are here to further your education. It is in your best interest that you do your own work.

Please review the Academic Integrity Policy of CUNY (Part of it follows below). No exceptions are made. Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension and expulsion.

<http://www.csi.cuny.edu/catalog/undergraduate/5282.htm>

Cheating is the unauthorized use or attempted use of material, information, notes, study aids, devices or communication during an academic exercise.

The following are some examples of cheating, but by no means is it an exhaustive list:

- Copying from another student during an examination or allowing another to copy your work.
- Unauthorized collaboration on a take home assignment or examination.
- Using notes during a closed book examination.
- Taking an examination for another student, or asking or allowing another student to take an examination for you.

- Changing a graded exam and returning it for more credit. Submitting substantial portions of the same paper to more than one course without consulting with each instructor.
- Preparing answers or writing notes in a blue book (exam booklet) before an examination. Allowing others to research and write assigned papers or do assigned projects, including use of commercial term paper services.
- Giving assistance to acts of academic misconduct/ dishonesty.
- Fabricating data (all or in part).
- Submitting someone else's work as your own.
- Unauthorized use during an examination of any electronic devices such as cell phones, palm pilots, computers or other technologies to retrieve or send information.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writings as your own.

The following are some examples of plagiarism, but by no means is it an exhaustive list:

- Copying another person's actual words without the use of quotation marks and footnotes attributing the words to their source..
- Presenting another person's ideas or theories in your own words without acknowledging the source.
- Using information that is not common knowledge without acknowledging the source.
- Failing to acknowledge collaborators on homework and laboratory assignments.

Internet plagiarism includes submitting downloaded term papers or parts of term papers, paraphrasing or copying information from the internet without citing the source, and "cutting & pasting" from various sources without proper attribution.

References for Biology:

Biology Tutoring Center at College of Staten Island:

Room: 1A-108A

Bring your book, notes, and syllabus with you to the tutoring center.

NATURE Education:

<http://www.nature.com/scitable>



Nerodia sipedon – Midland County, Michigan.