

Biol 112: Diversity of Life

Professor

Dr. Russell Wyeth

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Office Hours: JBB 222,

anytime by appointment, [email](#) to schedule

drop in: Mon 9:15–11:15, Tues 1:15 – 2:15, Wed 9:15 – 11:15

Lectures: SCHW110

Website: <http://moodle.stfx.ca>

Use your webFX userid and password [same as your StFX email]

Separate pages for **lab** and **lecture**!

Textbook (same as Biol 111)

Reece et al., 2018. Biology, 2nd Canadian edition. **Other editions are OK!**

Mandatory Components

Every student must complete both of these components. **Failure to do so will give a failing grade.**

1. Clicker registration. *Clickers are used for testing and every student must have one.*
2. Biological Questions Exercise. *Each student must complete this outside class time. Details in lab 1!*

Evaluation

Lecture (subtotal: 54%)	Midterm Exam	14%	Feb 14; in lecture
	Lecture Final Exam	40%	Date TBA; in gym
Lab (subtotal: 38%)	Pre-Lab Quizzes	2%	Weekly; on Moodle
	Lab Assignments	3%	Throughout term, during lab
	Post-Lab Quizzes	3%	Weekly; on Moodle
	Writing Assignments	8%	Dates TBA; In lab and on Moodle
	Taxon of the Week	3%	Weekly; In lab and on Moodle
	Lab Final Exam	19%	Apr 6, 7 pm; Location TBA
Clickers	In Lecture	4%	Throughout term
Participation	Online Activities	4%	Throughout term, on Moodle

* *average of 55% across Biol 111 & 112 is required to continue in biology programs.*

Attendance & Missed Lectures and Labs

You are expected to attend all lectures, all labs, and complete all assignments and exams. Grades available in lecture or lab time will be lost if absent. Explanations for missed lectures are not required. Missed labs can be made-up (for full marks) only if an explanation and request to attend an alternate lab section are submitted via Moodle in advance.

Missed Exams & Quizzes; Late Assignments

Missed grade items receive **zero** unless a valid explanation is provided (**see Valid Explanations below**), OR arrangements are made **at least 2 weeks in advance**. Late assignments are **NOT** accepted!!! No extensions without a valid excuse.

Students with Disabilities

In addition to working with the Program for Students with Disabilities, **you must identify** yourself to both Dr. Wyeth and your Lab Instructor within the first week of class. For more information:

http://sites.stfx.ca/accessible_learning/

Lab Instructors

Office: JBB 121

Regina Cozzi

867-2288 rcozzi@stfx.ca

Leah Rogers

867-3662 lmrogers@stfx.ca

Labs: JBB 119/122

Lab Manual

Available at your first lab.

Questions or Need Help?

Talk to Dr. Wyeth or one of your lab instructors.

English as a Second Language

If English is not your first language **you must identify** yourself to both Dr. Wyeth and your Lab Instructor within the first week of class. ESL students are **strongly encouraged** to continue English training alongside their regular coursework.

Classroom Equity

This course must be a safe learning environment for all students. Accordingly, no one shall be discriminated against or harassed. If at any point you feel you are the subject of either discrimination or harassment, please notify your professor, lab instructor, or contact the StFX Human Rights and Equity Advisor. <http://sites.stfx.ca/equity/>

Student Success Centre

A portion of your course grade depends on a written report, and good writing **will** improve your grade on the report. Students are **strongly encouraged** to use the Student Success Centre's programs to improve their writing skills (useful far beyond this class!)

Student Success Centre: <http://sites.stfx.ca/ssc/>

Group Work

We actively encourage group discussion and study. However, all exams, quizzes, assignments and reports must be **your own work**.

Cheating and Plagiarism

You must adhere to academic integrity standards. Cheating, data fabrication or plagiarism will be punished as per official policy. https://sites.stfx.ca/registrars_office/academic_integrity.html

Plagiarism is the misrepresentation of another's ideas, words, or other work as one's own, plagiarism, and is a form of theft. Types of plagiarism may include: paraphrasing or re-arranging another's words without proper acknowledgement, or using material from the Internet, a database, a book, a journal, or any other source without attribution.

Grades

All grades are set out above and it is your responsibility to **check** the grades recorded in Moodle are accurate. Grades can only be changed by requesting a re-grade of the item within a week of it being posted in Moodle (note: your mark may go up or down). Exceptions will be made for illness, deaths in the family, or severe personal circumstances that affect your performance, with a **valid explanation**.

Valid Explanations & Accommodations

Short-term illness only: if you miss a lab, use Moodle to submit an explanation and request to attend an alternate lab section. For deaths in the family or long-term illnesses contact the Dean's office (with a funeral notice, doctor's note, etc.). For other special personal circumstances, contact Dr. Wyeth or your Lab Instructor as early as possible, preferably **before** the exam date or assignment due date. If an explanation is deemed valid, several accommodations are possible, including (but not limited to) attending an alternate lab time, deferred exams or assignments, changes to grade weighting, etc.

No Extra Credit

There is **no possibility whatsoever** of extra credit to increase your mark at any time. Anyone receiving a final course grade of 49% will **automatically** have their final exam re-graded.

Concerned About Your Grade?

If you are concerned about achieving a specific grade in this course to meet a program requirement you **must contact Dr. Wyeth during the term**, before the final exam.

Remember the Website! Everything in this course is coordinated through Moodle.