

## BIO 1003—SURVEY OF THE LIVING WORLD: COURSE GOALS AND POLICIES

### Goals of BIO 1003 -- Survey of the Living World

- 1) Scientists learn by careful observation and by carrying out experiments. Inferences (conclusions) are made based on the experimental data and observations. Through hands on laboratory experience you will:
  - a) survey the living world by observing live and preserved materials and become familiar with the extraordinary variety of living organisms: their structure, function, methods of reproduction, patterns of inheritance, and interactions with other organisms.
  - b) learn the basics of scientific methodology: formulate a hypothesis; design and carry out experiments; analyze results; re-evaluate the original hypothesis; and see the sequential nature of science—that new discoveries build on prior information and on the development of new technologies.
  - c) learn how to record your observations in written paragraphs, tables, and graphs.
  - d) improve your learning and studying skills by recognizing that clearly defined terms (vocabulary) and concepts are necessary for communication in any discipline; by making connections between your experiences in the laboratory and the theoretical concepts presented in lectures; and by making connections between what you learn in BIO 1003 with what you learn in other settings.
- 2) Through discussions and lectures, you will learn about several important scientific theories (*e.g.*, cell theory, chromosomal theory of inheritance, Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection) and understand that scientific theories explain observations and are well-supported by empirical evidence.
- 3) As a result of your work in BIO 1003, you will be better able to:
  - a) think about some of the difficult questions people have about life and the natural world.
  - b) deal with ambiguous situations in which there may be more than one solution to a problem or more than one interpretation of data.
  - c) understand, evaluate, and discuss reports of scientific research presented in the media.
  - d) understand and discuss ethical concerns including the use of human subjects and laboratory animals.

### Academic Integrity

We all have to treat each other with respect – honesty and consideration are vital. Assignments and examinations should reflect each individual's understanding and achievement. Written submissions must be in your own words: if you use another person's words or ideas, the source(s) must be cited. Academic dishonesty will incur serious penalties and may result in referral to the Dean of Students and could adversely affect your grade. For further policy regarding academic integrity, including penalties that may be incurred for academic dishonesty, please refer to the Baruch College website ([http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic\\_honesty.html](http://www.baruch.cuny.edu/academic/academic_honesty.html)).

### Attendance

Your participation is important to the success of this course. We expect you to attend every class, but recognize that sometimes emergencies occur. College policy, which we enforce equally for freshmen through seniors, is that you are overcut if you miss more than twice the number of class meetings held each week. Attendance is taken both in lecture and in the laboratory. It is difficult, if not impossible, to make up missed laboratory work.

### Cell Phones

Please be sure to turn your cell phone off when you enter the classroom for lab or lecture.

### Grades

Refer to the syllabus to determine how your grade for this course is calculated.

Refer to the *2004-2007 Undergraduate Bulletin* (p. 40, in the section on policies and procedures), for the numerical equivalents for grades, *e.g.*, A=93.0 – 100.0, A- = 90.0-92.9, B+ = 87.0-89.9, *etc...* The *Bulletin* can be accessed online from the Baruch College website.