

- Participate in group study sessions, this can be the most effective form of learning for many students
- Do not hesitate to contact the instructor about concerns you may have with the class.
- Make use of the instructor's office hours.
- Review study practices at <https://www.jccmi.edu/science/how-to-study-science/>

Grading:

Your final grade for the course will comprise both lecture (75%) and lab (25%) components.

Lecture

- Tests:

Exam formats may include, multiple choice, matching, fill-in, short answer, essay, application, and problem solving. Questions on the exam will be Up to 15% of the exam may include material from previous chapters. Dates for the exams will be discussed in class. Exams will be 100 points each. A final cumulative exam will be given on the last day of class.

Your lowest exam score for the semester will be dropped (the final exam cannot be dropped). The intention of this policy is to account for a missed exam or a poor performance due to circumstances that are beyond your control. However, some students start to count on the dropped test policy to cover for a poor exam. Do not plan on this as may experience an absence latter in the semester.

During exams, electronic devices must be turned off and may not be within reach unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Violation of this will result in a zero and implementation of the academic dishonesty policy. Low scores due to academic dishonesty cannot be dropped.

- Quizzes, activities, and homework may also be assigned.

Each day in class will start with a short 5 point quiz. This will take place during the first 5 minutes of class. These quizzes will be based upon assigned reading or previous lecture notes. You will be permitted to use any hand written notes to assist with your quiz. Be sure to arrive in time to take the daily quiz. You will not be permitted to take the quiz once they have been collected. You will be permitted to drop your two lowest daily quiz scores (low scores due to academic dishonesty cannot be dropped).

You must be present for in-class activities to receive credit. Late work will only be accepted if submitted prior to class discussions on the assignment and before graded papers have been returned to the class. One assignment may be made up by writing a review (2 pages, double spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 point font) of a biology related article from Scientific American magazine (available in the library). In the review you should provide a reflective statement of your perspective on the article. Include a photocopy of the article with the assignment

Lab:

As a part of lab, you will be working in a group of up to four people. It is expected that you will work together to complete the exercise. As such, you may not leave lab until all individuals in your group have completed the lab exercise. The reason for this is that lab is a group activity and cooperation is required. Prior to leaving lab, the lab needs to be clean. If the lab is in disorder, students leaving will lose points for the day.

Lab quizzes will be assigned over the semester. The lab quizzes will cover the material related to the lab activities and concepts. Each quiz will be worth 25 points. Missed lab quizzes cannot be made up, however, the lowest lab quiz will be dropped. Low quiz scores due to academic dishonesty cannot be dropped.

Grading Scale:

The grading scale will be as followed pending further notice and grades will be rounded to the nearest percent. Grades will be curved at the instructor’s discretion, and will only be applied if it will improve grades.

<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Grade</u>
90 - 100%	4.0	75 – 79 %	2.5	60 – 64 %	1.0
85 – 89 %	3.5	70 – 74 %	2.0	55 – 59 %	0.5
80 – 84 %	3.0	65 – 69 %	1.5		

Extra credit will not be given/accepted under any circumstance. Rather time should be taken to learn the assigned material.

Important Dates:

Sept. 6	First day of classes
Oct. 23-27	No classes – Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 22	End of semester

Absences and Arriving to Class Late:

The doors on classrooms are now required to be locked at all times for security purposes. If you arrive late, please knock and wait patiently until you are allowed in the class.

Although you will not be graded on attendance, it is an important factor to your learning and success in this course. In the case of an absence it is your responsibility to contact the instructor about missed materials or assignments. You are strongly encouraged to get the notes from a classmate. Late take home work will be accepted at a 20% deduction in points possible and will only be accepted prior to when the assignment is returned to class.

Being Dropped from Class:

JC is required to drop students from classes if they are not participating. If you miss more than 4 lectures, 2 labs, or are not participating (not turning in assignments for example) you will be dropped from the class. Be aware that this is a lab course and attendance/participation is lab is required to receive credit for the course. After the drop date, a student missing sufficient days will receive a 0.0 for the course.

Students own the responsibility of the effect of being dropped. Being dropped from the class may affect financial aid or housing status. If you are dropped, the drop status will NOT be changed due to the impact on financial aid, housing status, etc.

Academic Dishonesty:

Consistent with JCC policy, cheating and plagiarism (copying another’s work and presenting it as your own) will not be tolerated. To minimize the risk of this, phones will not be permitted out or within reach in any way during tests and quizzes. Having a phone within reach or using a smart watch will be considered cheating and will result in implementation of the cheating policy.

A first offense of cheating, plagiarism, and unethical behavior will result in a zero for the assignment and a deduction of the points value of the assignment from points earned. This score may not be dropped. A second offense will result in a zero for the course. All cases of academic dishonesty will be documented and forwarded to the Academic Dean.

Phones in the Classroom:

Research has clearly shown that having a cell phone out in class has a negative effect on learning and success. One study reported that students accessing their phones even once in class have an average earned grade 0.5 points less than those that do not have a phone out. Students with grades less than a 3.0 have even greater negative effect on their grade.

JC has made a point of emphasizing student success. As such, **phones are not permitted to be out in class (this includes texting)**. If you have a phone with you, leave it in your backpack or pocket. If you have matters that require such vital importance that it requires you to focus on text messages or calls, you probably should not be in class. If you access your phone in class you will be asked to leave for 10 minutes while you take care of the matter. A refusal to leave or more than three times of being asked to leave class over the semester will result in application of the disruptive behavior policy.

Disruptive Behavior:

Disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated in this class. Disruptive behaviors include (but are not limited to) having side discussions, being distracting to class when arriving late, cell phone constantly ringing, and being disrespectful of others. These behaviors will result in point deductions of up to 15 points and being asked to leave the class. If there are situations that I may not be aware of, please let me know so the situation may be addressed.

Incompletes:

Incompletes will only be issued if the student and is unable to complete the course due to extenuating circumstances. In order to receive an incomplete the student must have completed a vast majority (over 90%) of the course and have been earning a minimum of a 2.0 at the time of the request. If a grade of incomplete is issued all grades/scores earned to that date will be used in calculated the course grade.

Assistance:

If you are in need of assistance in this course I encourage schedule a time to meet with me during office hours to discuss your study strategies. You may also benefit from discussion strategies with your classmates or setting up group study sessions. If you feel that you would benefit from a tutor, be aware that tutors are available free of charge. Additional information on special services may be found by contacting the front office or through the JCC's Center for Student Success (796-8415).

Accommodations:

If you have special needs or accommodations, it is your responsibility to make the instructor aware of those needs as soon as possible so suitable arrangements may be made. In order to receive special accommodations I will also need the necessary paperwork from Student Services. Accommodations cannot be applied retroactively.

Grievances:

If you have a concern about any aspect of the course it is your responsibility to bring it to the instructor's attention. This is the first step of handling any academic concern. Academic complaints need to be handled by having a scheduled meeting with the instructor.

Note: The policies included in this document are subject to the instructor's discretion.

Tentative Schedule*:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
9-6	Introduction	
9-8	Nature of science	1
9-13	Nature of science, cont.	1
9-15	What is science?	1
9-20	How does science work?	1
9-22	What is "significant"?	1
9-27	Test 1	
9-29	Impact of pollutants.	12.4
10-4	Greenhouse effect	5.1
10-6	Carbon cycle	5.2
10-11	Global climate change	5.2, 5.5
10-13	Test 2	
10-18	What is cancer?	6.1
10-20	Genetic basis of cancer	6.2
10-25	Causes of cancer	6.4
10-27	Cancer treatment	6.5
11-1	Test 3	
11-3	Nutrition & Chemistry of life	3.1
11-8	Vitamins and Minerals	3.1
11-10	Carbohydrates and proteins	2.4
11-15	Lipids and nucleic acids	2.4
11-17	Test 4	
11-22	History of evolution	10
11-24	No Classes	
11-29	Is there evidence for evolution?	10
12-1	Is there evidence for evolution?	10
12-6	Is there evidence for evolution?	10
12-8	How does evolution occur?	11
12-13	Test 5	
12-15	Flex day	
12-17	Review	
12-22	Final Exam	

* Schedule may be altered as current events in science arise

* Scientific papers and additional chapter sections may be required for each topic

Biology 110 Learning Contract:

As a student taking Biology 110, I understand my responsibilities as follows:

- I understand and accept the policies outlined in this syllabus
- I understand that this is a transferable college level course that transfers easily to most colleges and universities
- I understand that this is not an “easy” or “blow-off” course.
- I understand that if I do not come to class prepared, having studied previous material, completed homework, and read from the book that I will not be successful in this course
- I understand that this course builds upon previous information and falling behind will make the course more challenging.
- I understand that attendance and being to class on-time are critical to my success in this course.
- I will ask questions that I have about the course material.
- I will help my fellow student understand the course material.
- I understand that if I cheat in this course, it may affect my ability to obtain certain jobs in health care or with the government for the rest of my life.
- If I need help or have special problems, I will see the instructor, or request a tutor before I fall too far behind.
- If I have a complaint about the course, I will first discuss it with the instructor as per JCC policy.

General Education Outcomes:

The Board of Trustees has determined that all JCC graduates should develop or enhance certain essential skills while enrolled in the college. Several of these outcomes are addressed in this class, including critical thinking, scientific reasoning, and a knowledge of science.

GEO 4: Scientific Reasoning

Students will be able to design and carry out valid experiments to assess a given hypothesis, and draw appropriate conclusions based on the results.