

BIO 101 - BIOLOGY IN SOCIETY

Course Description

In this course, students apply the scientific method and biological principles to problems and decisions confronting society today. Students develop their basic biological knowledge in broad topics in order to discuss the importance and ethical impact of the biological sciences on society. General topics include ecology, evolution, the human ecosystem, neurobiology, and DNA technology. Specific topics discussed may vary from semester to semester as new issues and biological developments warrant. Group 1 course.

Credit Hours

3

Contact Hours

3

Required Prerequisites

None

General Education Outcomes supported by this course

Critical Thinking - Direct

Course Learning Outcomes

Knowledge:

- Explain core biological concepts including ecology, evolution, microbiology, neurobiology, genetics, and biotechnology, in accurate, accessible terms.

Application:

- Evaluate scientific claims encountered in media, podcasts, and everyday life using biological reasoning and evidence-based thinking.

Integration:

- Connect biological concepts to personal health decisions, civic responsibilities, and contemporary social debates.

Human Dimension:

- Reflect on how biological systems including their own brain, microbiome, and genome shape who they are, how they think, and how they relate to other living things.
- Develop the ability to engage in meaningful, respectful civil discourse on biological concepts.

Caring - Civic Learning:

- Demonstrate curiosity and concern about biological issues affecting their communities and planet.
- Articulate why biological issues matter personally.

Learning How to Learn:

- Identify credible scientific sources, recognize the difference between scientific consensus and contested claims, and apply skeptical inquiry as a lifelong habit.