Instructor Information
Dr. Michael Dixon
016 Cavness
325-486-6636
michael.dixon@angelo.edu

Office Hours:
M 9-10, 11-12
T 9-11
W 9-10, 11-12, 2-3
Th 9-11
F 9-10

About This Course:
Daily the news media report on new discoveries in biology including human genetics and medicine. This course will help you understand these developments and make informed decisions regarding your health. We will do this by studying the biological nature of humanity with an emphasis on human structure and function.

The content of Biology 1408 includes generalizations and specifics of human biology. You are expected to understand and remember the facts presented and to demonstrate an ability to work with those facts. This information will be presented during lecture, in the laboratory and through reading your textbook and other assigned material.

Evaluation of each student will be based on performance in both the lecture section (75%) and the lab section (25%).

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
The objective of the study of a natural sciences component of a core curriculum is to focus on describing, explaining, and predicting natural phenomena using the scientific method. Courses involve the understanding of interactions among natural phenomena and the implications of scientific principles on the physical world and on human experiences.

The SLO’s for this course and the associated activities include:

- Critical Thinking
  o (CT1) Students will gather, analyze, interpret and evaluate data.
    - Students will conduct experiments in the lab, gather data and then analyze their results.

- Communication
  o (CS1) Students will communicate information via written means on lab activities and projects.
    - Students will conduct lab experiments and communicate their findings in writing to each other and their instructor

- Empirical & Quantitative Skills
  o (EQS1) Students will collect and analyze quantitative data.
    - Students will take measurements as part of a lab experiment. They will analyze their data and generate conclusions.
  o (EQS2) Students will make observations to test a hypothesis and generate conclusions based on their observations.
    - Students will make directed observations, gather data and then analyze their results

- Teamwork
  o (TW2) Students will work together on applied learning activities and collaborate with one another to support course goals.
    - Students will conduct experiments in the lab in groups, gather data and then analyze their shared results.
Course Materials Required:

**Human Biology** by Mader & Windelspecht, 14th Ed.

You may elect to purchase the book, rent the book, purchase an “eBook”, etc. At least one copy of the textbook will be available in the library.

Internet Access and E-mail

Some assignments and course materials will be available at the course web site, [http://www.angelo.edu/faculty/mdixon/HumanBiology/](http://www.angelo.edu/faculty/mdixon/HumanBiology/) or on the Blackboard web site [http://blackboard.angelo.edu/](http://blackboard.angelo.edu/).

You are expected to check your e-mail regularly. Your “username@angelo.edu” address will be used for class correspondence unless you enter a substitute address on Blackboard.

**Top Hat**

We will be using the Top Hat classroom response system in class. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message. Top Hat will require a paid subscription, and a full breakdown of all subscription options available can be found here: [www.tophat.com/pricing](http://www.tophat.com/pricing).

You can visit the Top Hat Overview ([https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide](https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide)) within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system.

An email invitation will be sent to you by email, but if don’t receive this email, you can register by simply visiting tophat.com. Our Course Join Code is **819510**.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

**Attendance:**

You are expected to attend all lecture and lab periods. The single most important thing you can do to get a good grade in this course is to show up. I will take attendance regularly. You will get a zero on the assignment if you are not present. Quizzes and other in-class activities may not be made up. The only exceptions that are made require prior permission.

**Religious Holy Days:**

A student who intends to observe a religious holy day during the semester should make that intention known in writing to the instructor during the first week of the semester and one week prior to the absence. If this submission is completed, a student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take make up missed exams or assignments scheduled for that day in accordance with syllabus policy.

**Tests:**

There will be three tests given during the semester plus a final exam. Each examination will include information presented in class and from your textbook. Each test will be comprehensive - that is it will include material presented at any time during the course. This is unavoidable because early topics of discussion are built upon and expanded as the course progresses.

Exams will be mostly multiple-choice but may include a few short answer questions. You must bring a #2 pencil on exam days. Scantron answer sheets will be provided. Exams will cover material covered up through the last class day before the exam.
Missing an exam is a very serious matter. If you have a documented legitimate excuse, such as severe personal illness, a death in your family, or a university-sponsored event, you must notify me before the exam or very promptly afterward. I will work with you if you act responsibly. If you miss an exam for any other reason or do not notify me promptly then I will use the score you get on the final exam to replace ONE missing exam grade. If you have missed two or more exams you will receive a zero for the other exam grades.

As a reward to those of you who put in the necessary work, the final exam is optional if you have an “A” average in all of your work at the end of the semester. This includes both the lab and lecture portions of this course.

Laboratory:
You are required to attend a laboratory section in addition to your lecture. Laboratory policies will be explained during your first lab, which will take place during the first week of classes.

Grades:
I keep track of “points” in the lecture component of this course. You will have the opportunity to earn points in a variety of ways:

- Tests (see details below)
- In class activities, including
  - Quizzes, both announced and unannounced
  - In-class discussion questions or “flipped” assignments
- “Homework”
  - Usually Blackboard assignments that may include quizzes, surveys and Discussion Board assignments
  - “Flipped” assignments

Final Grade Calculation:
Your grade in this course will be determined by adding together all of the points you earn on your tests, quizzes and any other assignments and then dividing this number by the total number of points possible. "Extra credit or bonus" assignments will be added in to the total you earned without adding them into the number of possible points. This will be your lecture average. It is worth 75% of your course grade.

All of the scores on your laboratory exercises will be averaged together to determine your laboratory average. This is worth 25% of your course grade.

Your semester grade will be determined using the scale:

- 90 – 100% = A
- 80 – 89% = B
- 70 – 79% = C
- 60 – 69% = D
- <60% = F

Rounding off of averages or the use of a curve may occur at the instructor’s discretion.

An example of how to calculate your average is posted on the course web site.

Academic Honor Code:
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.
Special needs:
Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request and to implement academic accommodations.

Withdrawal From the Course:
You are not automatically withdrawn from a course if you stop attending. If you stop attending class and do not withdraw I am required to submit a grade for you. This “F” cannot be removed.

Note: Course syllabi are intended to provide students with basic information concerning the course. The syllabus can be viewed as a ‘blueprint’ for the course; changes in the syllabus can be made and students will be informed of any substantive changes concerning examinations, the grading or attendance policies and changes in assignments.

Lecture Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction, Syllabus</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods and limitations of science</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digestion</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Circulation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood</td>
<td>6, part 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respiration</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urinary System</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reproduction</td>
<td>17, parts of 18 and 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Genetics)</td>
<td>(21 and parts of 22)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evolution</td>
<td>23</td>
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Parts of other chapters will be assigned periodically.

Test Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>Intro-Digestion</td>
<td>Thursday, Sep 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>Digestion-Blood</td>
<td>Thursday, Oct 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>Blood – Reproduction</td>
<td>Tuesday, Nov 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>EVERYTHING!</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 12, 10:30am</td>
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