EVOLUTION AND DIVERSITY OF LIFE- BIO 1010 Section A FALL 2015 Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION:

- a. Title: Evolution and Diversity of Life (BIOL 1010 Section A)
- **b.** Instructor:**c.** Office: Dr. Timothy Henkel (tphenkel@valdosta.edu)
- Bailey Science Center 2212
- d. Office Hours: TTH: 11:00 am-12:00pm and by appointment
- e. Class Meets: TTH 9:30-10:45 am, Bailey Science Center 1011

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the diversity of life on Earth with a special emphasis on ecological and evolutionary processes and relationship -Co-requisite BIOL 1020L

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Core Curriculum: Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems. (http://www.valdosta.edu/gec/ProposedNewLearningOutcomes.shtml)

Specifically, students will:

- a. Learn about the nature of science and how to build scientific knowledge;
- b. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of evolution and how it relates to biodiversity;
- c. Effectively organize, communicate and apply their knowledge of biology to their everyday lives.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Textbook: Concepts of Biology from OpenStax College, ISBN 1-938168-11-

Additional readings will regularly be assigned and made available via Blazeview.

Each student must also have their own individual ResponseCard NXT clicker in order to actively participate in class. In addition, all exams will be conducted using the ResponseCard clicker. Please note that any other model of dicker will not be supported.

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Learning is not a passive activity in which you simply absorb and repeat back facts given by an instructor. Rather, learning requires you to take an active role. In fact, to truly understand science you must construct your own personal interpretation of the concepts and store them away in a form that is meaningful to you.

Students will be assigned reading material. Facts and vocabulary are important to any discipline, though I ask you to go beyond simple memorization of details and interconnect those facts to concepts, applications and problems; to ask meaningful questions; to test well developed hypotheses; to develop a range of intellectual abilities, including critical thinking, logical argument, appropriate uses of evidence and interpretation of varied kinds of information; and to communicate your understanding in writing and orally to multiple audiences.

COMMUNICATION:

Email: Email is the simplest and primary way to contact me outside of class and is the quickest way for me to contact you as well. You are required to check and maintain your Valdosta State University email account. I will only communicate with you through this official email account.

Do NOT email using the Blazeview system, all email should be sent directly to tphenkel@valdosta.edu.

Blazeview: We will be using Blazeview throughout the semester as a tool for sharing information. I will post course notes after each class to the website, as well as provide additional resources, readings, and homework assignments. All official course information is located on Blazeview and students are expected to regularly access the Blazeview website.

Notes on emailing your professor and graduate assistants:

In order to get a reply to your emails you <u>must</u> do the following in your email communication: Include your course number and section in the subject line of any email (BIOL 1010A). Communicatg m-3(A))]TETBT.05 Ttw(u)3(are)9(11(a(m)-4a)4(d) 435.91 106.82 0.P-17ET/ 0 0 1 144.02 1 GRADING PROCEDURES: Letter grades will be assigned based on the following tables:

	% of Course
Course Component	Grade
Exams (best 3 of 4)	55%
Homework	15%
In Class Participation	10%
Final Exam	20%
Total	100%

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY: Cheating, plagiarism (submitting another person's material as one's own, or doing work for another person which will receive academic credit) are all impermissible. This includes the use of unauthorized books, notebooks, or other sources in order to secure or give help during an assignment or exam, the unauthorized copying of examinations, assignments, reports, or term papers, or the presentation of unacknowledged material as if it were your own work. This includes the use of a clicker that is not your own during class. Students are responsible for knowing, understanding and complying with the VSU Student Code of Conduct, in Appendix A of the Student Handbook (http://www.valdosta.edu/stulife/handbook/)

If substantial evidence exists for a violation of this policy, the student(s) involved will receive a grade of 'F' for the course and an official record will be filed following the Academic Integrity Response along with a letter to the Dean of Students (http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/Academic/HonestyPoliciesandProcedures.shtml).

CLASSROOM CONDUCT: A classroom policy will be developed by the course during the first class meeting and will be the standard for behavior in the class. The policy will be posted to Blazeview and enforced during class sessions. Violations with the policy will result in removal from the class session, and a repeated occurrence will result in a 10% grade reduction and possibly permanent removal from the course.

ACCESS OFFICE: Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications due to a documented disability must contact the Access Office for Students with Disabilities located in the Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY).

FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT: It is illegal to release personal information about an individual to others. Therefore grades, averages, and other personal information about any person will not be released to another person or over email.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER: The Student Success Center (SSC) at Valdosta State University is located in Langdale Residence Hall above the Tech Shop and is available to all students. The SSC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The SSC also provides free professional academic advising and on-campus job information in one location. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit the website: www.valdosta.edu/ssc.