Course Syllabus
Biology Department
Midwestern State University

History of the Biological Sciences - BIOL 5011

W 5:30 – 6:20 PM - BO 222/215

Instructor:

Dr. Mike Shipley  BO 218C
Phone: 397-4517
Email: michael.shipley@mwsu.edu
Office Hours: MWF 9:00 - 10:00AM; TR 9:30 - 11:00AM;
MW 11:00 – 11:30 PM; 4:00 – 5:30 PM; or by appointment

Required Text:


Course Objectives:

Literature & History of the Biological Sciences (BIOL 5013) was a graduate-level course designed to immerse students in the methods of scientific writing and publication along with a look at the rich history of the life sciences. The course has been broken down into two courses: Writing in The Biological Sciences (BIOL 5012), which focuses on the primary scientific literature and scientific writing, and this History of The Biological Sciences course (BIOL 5011), which explores the history of the discipline of biology. Major events in the development of the biological sciences will be emphasized with the goal of allowing students to place their research interests and career goals in the context of a historical perspective.

Assignments:

1). Lead a discussion on two chapters from Science as a Way of Knowing.

2). Lecture on “The Internet and Its History”. Handouts will be given. There will be a quiz over this presentation.

3). Short Paper on a topic not extensively covered in Science as a Way of Knowing. The paper should be 4-5 pages long, typed and double-spaced, and should include a bibliography section (that is not counted in the page length). The paper topic should be approved by the professor and the paper is due December 5.
Grade Determination:

The grade for this class will be based on the student’s performance as discussion leader, the quality of the short paper, and their performance on the Internet quiz. The breakdown for the grade is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100%</td>
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There is no set standard for each letter grade in this course. This course will be graded on a competitive basis among all students from BIOL 5011.

Attendance and Academic Honesty:

You will be expected to attend all scheduled class meetings, to be punctual and attentive. Make-up work is available only for those students who have an excused absence. Students should refer to the current MSU Handbook and Activities Calendar for university policy on academic dishonesty, class attendance, student rights and activities.