

BIOL 1313: Zoology

Class: 3 Semester Credit Hours

BIOL 1313

Tuesday Thursday 9:00 - 10:50

BIOL 1113: Zoology Lab

Lab: 1 Semester Credit Hours

BIOL 1113

Thursday 1:00 - 3:00

Clarendon College

Division of Science and Health

Spring 2026 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Mrs. Rachel Randall

E-mail: rachel.randall@clarendoncollege.edu

Virtual Office Hours: Contact me through email or Open LMS to schedule a Zoom meeting or phone call.

During regular fall and spring semesters, my hours are: **Childress Campus:** Monday 1:30–4:00 PM, **Clarendon Campus:**

Tuesday & Thursday 8:00–9:30 AM. **Virtual (Zoom/phone):** Wednesday & Friday 8:00 AM–12:00 PM

During fall mini and summer sessions, I am available through **virtual office hours (Zoom/phone)**.

The “Messages” feature within the online platform is the main method you should use to contact me. I will make every effort to check the course website every weekday and respond to your message requests within 24 hours on business days.

Instructor's Plan for Regular and Substantive Interaction

Students can expect regular and timely interaction with the instructor throughout the course. All assignments have posted due dates in the calendar, syllabus, or module. Communication will occur through email, announcements, discussions, office hours, and virtual meetings as needed. The instructor will provide feedback on assignments within 7 days and respond to student questions within one business day.

Online Course website: This course uses **Open LMS** for all instructions, tutorials, exams, and assignments, and all work must be submitted through the platform. Due dates are listed in the Course Schedule, and most communication will take place through LMS messages and discussion forums. You will gain access to the course on the first day of the semester (or within 24 hours if you register late). This is a face-to-face in person class

BIOL 1313 Course Description: Fundamental biological concepts relevant to animals, including systematics, evolution, structure and function, cellular and molecular metabolism, reproduction, development, diversity, phylogeny, and ecology.

Co-requisite: BIOL 1113 Zoology Lab

BIOL 1113 Course Description: This laboratory-based course accompanies Biology 1313, General Zoology. Laboratory activities will reinforce fundamental biological concepts relevant to animals, including systematics, evolution, structure and function, cellular and molecular metabolism, reproduction, development, diversity, phylogeny, and ecology.

Pre-/Co-requisite: BIOL 1313 Zoology

Required Instructional Materials Supplies: This course uses a free online textbook (OER)—no purchase is required. Lab activities use inexpensive materials that can be found at a grocery or variety store, and some labs will also direct you to free online virtual resources and simulations linked directly in the course.: Biology 2e textbook authored and published by OpenStax College (License: [CC-BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)). You can access and/or download the textbook material at <https://openstax.org/details/books/biology-2e>.

You do not have to print the textbook as it is available as an e-text on the OpenStax website and available via hyperlinks from Open LMS.

Methods of Instruction: This course will utilize readings from the text, PowerPoint presentations, forum discussions, audio-visual materials, and research (on the web and/or in the library).

Student Rights and Responsibilities: The full details of Student Rights and Responsibilities policies can be viewed on Clarendon College's website at: <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/studentservices/student-resources-forms.html>

Course Objectives

In accordance with recommendations from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, all life and physical science courses at Clarendon College will address the following core objectives:

- **Critical Thinking Skills** – including creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis

of information.

- **Communication Skills** – including effective written, oral, and visual communication.
- **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** – including application of scientific and mathematical concepts.
- **Teamwork** – including the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

Specific **Student Learning Outcomes** for the class and lab can be viewed from the THECB website at this link:

<https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/training-materials/lower-division-academic-course-guide-spring-21/>

Computer/Technology Requirement: This course uses a variety of web resources that require a good Internet connection and an up-to-date browser. The course will have its best appearance and functionality utilizing Mozilla Firefox. Note: If you use your iPad or iPhone to work in this course, download and use Mozilla Firefox to access the course instead of using Safari as your internet browser. Note: To use your **mobile device**, install the **Open LMS app**. Some activities cannot be completed on a mobile device.

You must have the following programs on your computer in order to use and complete these online courses:

- Adobe Reader (to view the PDF type of documents)
- Latest version of one of these internet browsers on your computer: **Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, or Microsoft Edge**.
- You must also have access to the **Microsoft Office** program that contains Microsoft Word to view some documents and PowerPoint to view some slideshows. (If you don't already have it on your computer, you can download the free Microsoft 365 available through Clarendon College. Click [these instructions](#) for help downloading it as well as accessing your Bulldogs email.)

Grading Policies:

Zoology Class (Biol 1313)

1. **Required Enrollment Verification Activity (Syllabus Quiz):** You must complete the **Syllabus Agreement EVA** located in the Class Orientation section. This confirms that you understand and agree to the course policies.

Students who do not complete the EVA by the official census date may be dropped from the course, which can result in an **F** and loss of **Financial Aid**.

2. **Class Notes count as 10%** of your final course grade. Class Notes count as 10% of your final course grade. Each chapter includes a set of guided notes, which you are expected to complete and submit. These notes support class discussions, help prepare you for quizzes, and serve as a study resource for exams. All note assignments are posted in Open LMS.
3. **Chapter quizzes and assignments will count as 45%** of your final course grade .Each chapter has at least one quiz. BEFORE you attempt the quiz:
 - a. Be sure to read the e-text chapter thoroughly.
 - b. Review the included PowerPoints as well as class notes that accompany the chapters.
 - c. Be certain to complete the discussion or activity for that chapter.
 - d. No quiz grades will be dropped.
4. **Class exams will count as 45%** of your final course grade.
 - a. The exams will utilize a variety of question formats (objective, matching, multiple choice, true/false, etc.)
 - b. You will only have one attempt for each exam. Once you begin the exam, you must complete it within the allotted time.
 - c. All class exams, including the final, will be weighted equally.
 - d. Each exam covers the material covered since the last exam (not comprehensive).
 - e. No exam grades will be dropped.

Grading Policies:

Zoology Lab (Biol 1113)

1. **Required Enrollment Verification Activity (Syllabus Quiz):** You must complete the **Syllabus Agreement EVA** located in the Class Orientation section. This confirms that you understand and agree to the course policies.

Students who do not complete the EVA by the official census date may be dropped from the course, which

can result in an **F** and loss of **Financial Aid**.

- Lab assignments will count as 60%** of your final lab grade. These assignments are linked in Open LMS and use free resources such as virtual lab simulations, projects, and other activities. No grades will be dropped
- Lab exams (practicals) will count as 40%** of your final lab grade. Equally weighted, non-comprehensive assignments: (1) Midterm- an online nitrogen cycle simulation focused on experimental design, and (2) Final - an interactive activity analyzing a watershed ecosystem problem.

You will receive a separate letter grade for BIOL 1313 and BIOL 1113. This grade comes from the components described above. **Student grades and course averages are viewable in Open LMS by clicking on the “Course Dashboard” and then clicking on the “Gradebook” in Open LMS. All graded activities/discussions/quizzes/exams for BIOL 1313 and 1113 must be completed and/or submitted in the Open LMS learning platform..**

Grading Policies: The final semester grades will be figured as set in the current catalog:

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 70-79 = C 60- 69 = D 59 or Below = F

Your official final course grade will appear in your Student Portal.

Grades earned for each graded activity will be available in Open LMS. However, in your Open LMS gradebook, assume that any activity you did not complete is a zero, even if a hyphen appears beside the activity in the gradebook. The current course average shown in the Open LMS gradebook will not be correct until I have replaced the hyphens with zeroes.

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND CLASSROOM ETHICS: Excerpt from Clarendon College’s Student Handbook

Clarendon College is committed to a philosophy of honesty and academic integrity. It is the responsibility of all members of the Clarendon College community to maintain academic integrity at Clarendon College by refusing to participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty. Any act of academic dishonesty will be regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense. Academic dishonesty violations include, but are not limited to:

- obtaining an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory exercise by stealing or collusion;
- discovering the content of an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment before it is given;
- observing the work of another during an examination or providing answers to another during the course of an examination;
- using an unauthorized source of information during an examination, classroom activity, laboratory exercise, or homework assignment;
- entering an office, classroom, laboratory, or building to obtain an unfair advantage;
- taking an examination for another person;
- completing a classroom activity, laboratory exercise, homework assignment, or research paper for another person;
- altering grade records;
- using any unauthorized form of an electronic communication device during an examination, classroom activity, or laboratory activity; and/or,
- plagiarism. (Plagiarism is defined as the using, stating, offering, or reporting as one’s own an idea, expression, or production of another person’s work without proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, turning in a paper purchased or acquired from any source, written by someone other than the student claiming credit, or stolen from another student.)

Students are responsible for reporting known acts of academic dishonesty to a faculty member, the program coordinator, the vice president, and/or dean. Any student with knowledge of a violation who fails to report it shall him/herself be in violation and shall be considered to have committed an act of academic dishonesty.

While academic integrity and honesty are the responsibility of the individual student, each individual faculty member, teaching assistant, and/or laboratory instructor is responsible for classroom management and for maintaining ethical behavior within the classroom and/or laboratory. Faculty who discover or suspect a violation should discuss the matter with the suspected violator(s) and attempt to resolve the case at that point. In cases of convincing evidence, the faculty member should take appropriate action. The faculty member and student should complete a Counseling Sheet regarding the violation. (The Counseling Sheet should contain at a minimum the date and time of the violation, the course, the instructor’s name, the student’s name, an explanation of the infraction or facts of the case, and the resolution to the incident.) This form should be signed by the student, faculty member, program coordinator, and the Vice President of Academic Affairs. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will maintain a file on all violations. If a faculty member prefers to report the case directly to Vice President of Academic Affairs, it remains his/her prerogative to do so. Additionally, if the faculty member and the accused student cannot reach a resolution or if the faculty member believes that suspension from school is the only fair sanction, the case should immediately be reported, by the faculty member, in writing, to the Vice President of Academic Affairs. If the Vice President of Academic Affairs observes any trends in student behavior which involve more than one violation or act of academic dishonesty, the Vice President of Academic Affairs is responsible for notifying all faculty members involved, for contacting the student(s) involved, and after consultation with the faculty member(s) involved for taking the appropriate action. The Vice President of Academic Affairs is responsible for the timely notification (normally within two weeks) to all parties of an action taken.

Students wishing to appeal a disciplinary decision involving academic integrity or acts of academic dishonesty may do so

through the Student Appeals and Grievance Procedure.

Class Policies:

1. **Attendance Policy:** Regular attendance is required for BIOL 1313 and BIOL 1113.
2. **Late work:** Assignments submitted after the published due date will receive a **10-point deduction**. Any assignment submitted **more than 15 days late** can earn a **maximum score of 60%**, regardless of quality. Waiving the late penalty is solely at the discretion of the instructor.

No late work will be accepted after the day before your final exam closes.

Please check the course schedule and note the final exam due date, as this deadline is firm.

Example: If your final exam is due on **May 12th**, then **no late work** will be accepted after **May 11th at midnight**. It is your responsibility to monitor due dates and submit work on time. If you experience an issue or need assistance, please contact me immediately.

3. **Final Exam:** The schedule of final exams times is published at the beginning of the semester. You can find the schedule for final exams at: <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/student-services/student-resources-forms.html> . Do not make plans to leave school before your scheduled final exam. In exceptional circumstances if a student needs to take a final exam early, he/she may request early final exams by filling out the form at: <https://www.clarendoncollege.edu/student-services/files/Request%20for%20Early%20Final%20Exams%20EV.pdf>
4. **Scholastic Honesty:** I adhere to a strict policy regarding academic honesty. Anyone who is dishonest in any way will receive a zero on that assignment or exam with no opportunity to make up the zero and may be dropped from the course with a grade of F. Assignments identified as AI-generated will be recorded as a zero, and the burden of proof falls on the student to demonstrate the work was not produced by AI
5. **Grievance Policy:** If you have a dispute concerning your grade or policies in this class, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor to discuss the matter. Should things remain unresolved, please follow the procedures described in the Clarendon College Student Handbook or College Policy Manual.
6. **Accommodations:** REQUIREMENTS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, any student who feels that he or she may need any special assistance or accommodation because of an impairment or disabling condition should contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services at 806-874-4837 / janean.reish@clarendoncollege.edu or visit the Clarendon campus at Clarendon College. It is the policy of Clarendon College to provide reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Associate Dean of Enrollment Services.
7. **Nondiscrimination Policy:** Clarendon College, in accordance with applicable federal and state law, prohibits discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status. It is the policy of Clarendon College not to discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran's status, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation. Harassment of a student in class, i.e., a pattern of behavior directed against a particular student with the intent of humiliating or intimidating that student will not be tolerated. The mere expression of one's ideas is not harassment and is fully protected by academic freedom, but personal harassment of individual students is not permitted.
8. **Withdrawal:** Students desiring to make schedule changes after their initial registration each semester must do so during the designated "Drop and Add" period as scheduled in the College Catalog. Students will be required to pay tuition and fees applicable to any class(es) added to their schedule.

Official withdrawal from a course is initiated in the Office of the Registrar. However, each student should consult with his/her academic advisor or the Associate Dean of Enrollment before officially withdrawing from a course. A student who stops attending a class without officially dropping it may receive a grade of "F" for that class.

Zoology 1313 and Lab 1113 Tentative Course Calendar and Outline – Spring 2026

Tentative Course Schedule: The course schedule is subject to change. Late will receive a **10-point deduction**. Any assignment submitted **more than 15 days late** can earn a **maximum score of 60%**, regardless of quality. Waiving the late penalty is solely at the discretion of the instructor. **No late work will be accepted after the day before your final exam closes (Monday, May 11th)**

Lecture Biol 1313	Lab Biol 1113
Syllabus EVA Unit 1 Intro to Zoology	Syllabus EVA Lab Safety
Unit 2 Chemistry of Life	Biomolecules
Unit 3 Cells and Metabolism Exam 1	The Great Molecule Escape: Diffusion in Action
Unit 4 Genetics & Taxonomy	Taxonomy
Unit 5 Evolution & Unicellular Eukaryotic Characteristics	Nova Evolution Lab
Unit 6 Reproduction and Development Exam 2	Planaria
Unit 7: Invertebrates Porifera, Cnidaria, Echinodermata	Annelid Dissection Lab Practical
Unit 7: Invertebrates cont.. Platyhelminthes, Nematoda, Annelida, Mollusca, Arthropoda, Echinodermata Exam 3	Crayfish dissection
Unit 8: Vertebrates Fish, Amphibians	Fish dissection
Unit 8: Vertebrates cont. Reptiles, Birds	Reptile dissection
Unit 8: Vertebrates cont. Mammals	Mammal dissection
Unit 9: Evolution of Primates	Assignment- Great Transitions: Origin
Project Based Learning Assignment: Vanishing Wonders: Research	Dichotomous Key
Project Based Learning Assignment: Vanishing Wonders: Presentation	Population Growth
FINAL EXAM (Chp 18 and Ch 21)	FINAL EXAM PRACTICAL (Malaria)