

**BIOL 4110 Senior Seminar Fall 2017**  
Course Explanation and Syllabus

Tuesdays 4:00 – 4:50 p.m.

**GENERAL INFORMATION:**

**Instructor**

Sibyl Rae Bucheli

**Email:** [Bucheli@shsu.edu](mailto:Bucheli@shsu.edu)

Office: LDB 142

Office Hours: Wednesday 11 – 2 pm



**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Discussions of current literature in the biological sciences. Required of senior Biology majors. Fall, Spring. Demonstrated college-level readiness in reading, writing, and math. Prerequisite: Biology major, Senior standing.

**I TAKE ACADEMIC HONESTY VERY SERIOUSLY** and will pursue any violations. All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**COURSE RESOURCES:**

**Course Text** Will be Provided as a PDF with a link in Blackboard

**Other Media** I will use **Blackboard** to communicate with you about readings, syllabus changes, and any other information.

**COURSE STRUCTURE:**

1. **Lecture** will be in the form of a formal discussion, to be presented and lead by the student body except for the second, fourth and last weeks.
  - ◆ Each student is assigned pages at the beginning of the semester and a week to present that reading.
  - ◆ Students that are presenting the chapter are responsible for:
    - a 30-minute review of the chapter to be presented at the beginning of class (please **do not** read directly from the PDF material. You will be docked points for this approach), as well as
    - generating approximately 5 questions to help to lead discussion. **You must provide to me your presentation and questions via email by 3:30 pm on the day you are assigned to present.**
  - ◆ All students are expected to read the assigned material and come to class prepared to discuss the topic at hand.
2. At the end of the semester, you are expected to turn in to me a course summary.
  - ◆ This summary is due the Tuesday of finals week at midnight and is to be submitted via Blackboard. It is to be:
    - approximately 4 pages (size 12 font, double spaced, standard margins, NO IMAGES in the body of the text), and

- you must include at least 3 citations from relevant sources published in primary literature (no text books) and listed in a “Works Cited” section at the end of the paper.
3. **Attendance** is mandatory, and you will receive a participation grade (worth 1/3 of your final grade).
    - ♦ **Lecture notes or slides** will not be posted on the internet or Blackboard. It is your responsibility to attend class, present the chapter and discussion questions, and to participate in all discussions.
  4. **Reading** the assigned chapters and all handouts is mandatory. **This class is a discussion and will only work if students read the book.**
  5. We will use **Blackboard** to communicate with about the readings, to post discussion questions, and to submit your topic idea and final report.

#### EVALUATION METHODS:

Participation	100 points
Presentation & questions	100 points
Final Report:	<u>100 points</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>points</b>	

#### GRADING SCALE:

A	90.00%&above;
B	80.00-89.99%;
C	70.00-79.99%;
D	60.00-69.99%;
F	59.99%&below

**COURSE SCHEDULE:** You will be notified if there are changes to the order of class. I assigned these topics/weeks alphabetically.

Bucheli	Week 2: DIDN”T HAPPEN
Bucheli	Week 3: some intro stuffs
Harris, Amber N.	Week 3: pages 5 – 8, 20 – 34
Hernandez, James A.	Week 5: pages 9 – 19
Kabel, Lauren M.	Week 6: pages 35 – 44
Lanza, Jason A.	Week 7: pages 45 – 58
Lawrence, Brett L.	Week 8: pages 59 – 66
Martin, Christina L.	Week 9: pages 67 – 88
Montesdeoca, Ricardo	Week 10: pages 89 – 106
Rudie, Lauren M.	Week 11: pages 107 – 124
Silos, Christin N.	Week 12: pages 125 – 130
Smith, Courtney P.	Week 13: pages 131 – 140
Wager, Jakob G.	Week 14: pages 141 – 146, 153 – 160
Bucheli	Week 15: closing remarks

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **FALL TERM 2017**

Date	Day	Event
August 23	Wednesday	First Class Day Full Term (15-Week) and 7 1/2 (A) Week Courses - Daytime on-campus and off-campus classes begin - Late Registration open - Refer to the Registrar's page for details and deadlines - Wednesday Night (WN) classes begin (on-campus and off-campus)
August 30	Wednesday	Last Day to Register and to Process Schedule Changes No registration permitted past this deadline
September 4	Monday	Labor Day - Holiday for Students and Faculty
September 8	Friday	Twelfth Class Day - Last Day to Drop Without a "Q" and Receive 100% Refund Note: Dropping a full schedule constitutes a resignation, not a drop. Click the following link to see Sam Houston State University's limitation of Q Drops.
November 10	Friday	Last Day to Drop Full-Term Courses with a "Q" Deadline to Drop 15-Week Fall Courses or Labs with a "Q" grade Notes: - Students will not be permitted to drop 15-week courses after this date - they will receive the grade they have earned - Dropping full schedule constitutes a resignation, not a drop - Limitation of Q Drops at Sam Houston State University
November 22 - November 24	Wednesday - Friday	Thanksgiving Holidays for Students and Faculty
November 27	Monday	Classes Resume
December 1	Friday	Last Class Day. Last Day to Resign by 5:00 PM in the Registrar's Office. - Resignation Policies
December 4 - December 7	Monday - Thursday	Final Examinations

RESIGNATION NOTE: Students may resign with a "W" grade from the 13th class day through the deadline posted in the Academic Calendar

## **SAM POLICY**

**Academic Honesty:** All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The university and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials.

**Visitors in the classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

**Students with Disabilities:** It is the policy of the university that no otherwise qualified disabled student shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from participation in, or denied benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program or activity. Disabled students may request help with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting their instructor, school/department chair, or by contacting the university Chair of the Committee for Continuing Assistance for Disabled Students/ Director of Counseling Center (located in Lee Drain Annex, phone 936-294-1720). A student with a disability is encouraged to register with the university Counseling Center, as well as contacting their instructor about assistance needs. Accommodation cannot be made until the student has initiated the request with the Counseling Center. Every semester that the student desires accommodations, it is the student's responsibility to complete a Classroom Accommodation Request Form at the Counseling Center and follow the stated procedure in notifying faculty. Accommodations for disabled students are decided upon documentation and need on a case-by-case basis by the Counseling Center. All requests are handled with confidentiality according to university procedures.

**Religious Holy Days Policy:** Section 51.91(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that the university excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University Policy 861001 provides procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first 15 days of the semester or the first 7 days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

## **Class Attendance**

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html>

1. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University.
2. Each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance.
3. Each faculty member will announce the policies for accepting late work or providing makeup examinations. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations.
4. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class work has not been missed; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences.
5. Each instructor is obligated to clarify in writing to each student enrolled in class at the beginning of the semester or summer session the instructor's classroom policy regarding absences.
6. Class absences will be recorded and counted only from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in that specific class.
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