Course description
Biology 2 is appropriate for both non-majors and majors. It serves as an introduction to the methods of science and provides an essential foundation for students planning to continue in biology. We do not attempt to cover all of biology, but instead emphasize various approaches and methods used by biologists in seeking biological knowledge. In laboratories, we highlight how experimental design, statistical analysis, and scientific writing (3 large assignments) are central to the pursuit of this knowledge.

Staff
Biology 2 is a team-taught course in which four members of the biology faculty lecture. In laboratory sections, faculty members and laboratory instructors are supported by a student assistant. Student Study Guides run weekly Group Study Sessions, student Computer Guides are available several nights a week to answer questions about using computers for statistical analysis and graphical presentation of results, and student Writing Associates read over and comment on the first drafts of writing assignments. The staff for Organismal and Population Biology for the spring semester, 2004, is listed at the top of the course syllabus and on Blackboard (under “Staff”).

Required textbooks and supplies
A bound laboratory notebook
**Lectures, quizzes, final exam**

Lectures are given in Science Center 101 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:30—11:20 AM. We expect students to attend class. There will be 6 quizzes during the semester. Only students who have excused absences will be allowed to make up a quiz. **An absence will be excused only when the Dean’s Office has notified the course coordinators that a student’s absence should be excused—therefore, you must provide information to a Dean in the event of an emergency.** There will be a final exam that reviews all course material at the end of the course. Questions dealing with laboratory procedure and experiments may be included on quizzes and on the final exam.

**Group study sessions**

Student Study Guides, who attend all lectures, will be available at the study sessions to answer questions you have about lecture and text material, and to lead discussions on “study questions” that are distributed regularly by the lecturers. Student Laboratory Assistants will also attend Study Sessions in the week before writing assignments are due. Held Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6—8 PM (see Blackboard for location).

**Computer workshops**

Student Computer Guides are available during these times to assist students with the use of statistical software (JMP®), graphing software (KaleidaGraph®), and text-processing software (Microsoft Word). All software used in Biology 2 runs on the Macintosh platform running OS X. If you wish to use other applications or platforms to produce text or figures, you are welcome to do so provided the output meets the requirements of each assignment; however, we cannot help you troubleshoot software other than those listed above. Held in Kohlberg 117: Sundays 7-8:30 PM, Tuesdays 7-8:30 PM, and Wednesdays 8:30—10 PM.

**Laboratory**

*Attendance at all laboratory sessions is required.* Laboratory work begins the first day of classes and we expect all students to arrive at or before the start of laboratory and to actively participate in the exercise. The laboratory for Biology 2 is located in Cornell 204, across from the Science
and Engineering Library in the Science Center. The list that assigns each student to a laboratory section is posted outside of the Biology 2 laboratory (Cornell 204). Students may switch laboratory sections only after consulting with and receiving permission from Tom Valente, the laboratory coordinator. Make-up laboratories will be given only when a student has an excused absence (as notified to Tom Valente through the Dean’s Office) and when laboratory materials are available. Some labs may run past the scheduled period; however, students who come prepared are much more likely to finish the laboratory exercise on time. Meeting times are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons (1:15—4:15 PM) and Thursday mornings (8:00—11:00 AM).

Laboratory guidelines

• Do not wear sandals. Closed-toe shoes are required at all times.
• Do not eat, drink, chew gum, suck lollipops, or apply cosmetics.
• Fully clean your laboratory bench after the completion of the exercise.
• Before leaving, arrange supplies and equipment in exactly the same position you found them.

Laboratory notebook

Each student is required to maintain a bound (i.e., stitched or glued) notebook with name and laboratory day written on the cover. Ruled, gridded, or blank-paged laboratory notebooks are equally acceptable. Students must maintain a dated, complete, and legible record of all laboratory activities. This record includes, for example, changes in procedures from those given in the laboratory manual, calculations used in experiments, all data, answers to questions asked in the laboratory manual, statistical summary information, and notes on any conditions (room temperature, light levels, etc.) that may have influenced the data. The laboratory notebook is also where “pre-lab” activities are to be recorded.

Grading

6 quizzes (50 pts each) 300 points
Final exam 100 points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing Assignment III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab participation</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field notes from behavior project</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
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| Penalty for late or incomplete first drafts of write-ups | -5 points |
| Penalty for failure to submit WA copy with final draft  | -5 points |
| Penalty for late final draft                                | -2 points per day |