BIOL 2602 - General Biology 2: Organisms and Ecology

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40019,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Thomas Diggins

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Ian Renne

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Professor (Dr. Tom Diggins)
Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph.D., Biology, SUNY at Buffalo, 1997. 29 peer-reviewed publications.
Instructor Office Location: 4037 Ward Beecher Hall
Instructor Office Phone: x3600

Instructor Title: Professor (Dr. Ian Renne)
Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph.D., Zoology, Clemson University, 14 peer-reviewed publications.
Instructor Office Location: 4057 Ward Beecher Hall
Instructor Office Phone: x1943

Course Description

2602. General Biology 2: Organisms and Ecology. The structure and function of plants and animals. Examination of the structure and functioning of organismic communities and ecosystems. Required of all biological sciences majors. Three hours of lecture per week. Prereq.: BIOL 2601 and CHEM 1515. Coreq.: BIOL 2602L. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
	No readings		

Brooker et al. 6th edition (recommended)

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Brooker, ch 32, 33, 40	Animal basics and multicellularity Animal diversity and evolution	
8/31	33, 34	Animal diversity and evolution Chordate evolution	
9/7	10, 40	Tissue types and animal body organization	
9/14	46	Musculoskeletal anatomy and physiology	Exam #1 (Diggins)
9/21	41, 42, 47, 48	Nutrition and digestive systems Respiration and circulation	
9/28	47, 48, 43-45	Respiration and circulation, cont. Neurological regulation	
10/5	43-45, 50	Neurological regulation Endocrine regulation	

10/12	Chapter 23	Renne begins Oct. 15 Evolution review	Exam #2 (Tues., Oct. 13, Diggins)
10/19	24	"Darwin Day" talk Population genetics review	
10/26	25, 26, 32-34	Origin of species, speciation Animal diversity	
11/2	29	Plant diversity & evolution	Exam 1 (Renne; Nov. 3)
11/9	30, 35, 36-39	Flowering plant form & function Plant nutrition, repro.; Earth's biomes	
11/16	54	Behavioral ecology, mating systems	Exam 2 (Renne; Nov. 17)
11/23	55-56	Population ecology; community ecology	
11/30	56-60	Community & ecosystem ecology, conservation	Exam 3 (Renne; Dec. 3)
12/7			Comprehensive final (Renne material only) Tues, Dec. 8 from 3:15-5:15 in lecture room

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.