

## Course Outcomes Guide

**Course Title:** BIO 106, The Unity and Diversity of Living Things

**Date:** December 18, 2017

**Course Team:** Dr. Bernard Murphy, Dr. Kristen Lennon, Dr. Rosemary Nickerson

### Expected Learning Outcomes

1. Student will be able to understand the way scientific investigations are carried out.
2. Students will be able to evaluate information they encounter in everyday life.
3. Students will understand the basic properties of living things.
4. Students will be able to use information that is available to them to understand and solve problems.

### Assessment (How do or will students demonstrate achievement of each outcome? Please attach a copy of your assessment electronically.)

- Five examinations including a comprehensive final
- Five to seven group activities that assess real life biological situations and personal situations such as interpreting food labels
- Fifteen online quizzes each dealing with the material presented in lecture each week
- Fourteen lab exercises dealing with actual biological and chemical processes and identification of organisms.

### Validation (What methods have you used or will you use to validate your assessment?)

- A pretest given before instruction begins on the first day of class, and then a posttest given as part of the final examination. These are compared at the end of the semester.

### Results (What do your assessment data show? If you have not yet assessed student achievement of your learning outcomes, when is assessment planned?)

	FA 11	SP 12	SU 12	FA 12	SP 13	SU 13	FA 13	SP 14	SU1 4
#Active students					39	17	41	42	9
%W					11.4	5.6	1.5	7.1	0
*% walk-away Fs No final					5.1	0	2.4	14.3	0
% Success (A,B,C)					66.7	88.2	73.2	66.7	77.8
Common Gen Ed Questions, % Correct					66.1	68.3	69.7	64.7	62.2
Mean course grade in %					65.0	77.3	75.8	69.2	80.4

Item Analysis Weakest Content Areas									
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\*% Walk-away Fs = Did not take the final exam and received a grade of F.

**Follow-up** (How have you used or how will you use the data to improve student learning?)

- Initial common assessment data for BTC-101 was viewed and modifications to the questions being asked to improve phrasing and level of difficulty were made in 2009. New instructors are now teaching this course and will review the common assessment and try to tailor the questions to their syllabi and teaching content.

**Budget Justification** (What resources are necessary to improve student learning?)

None at this time.

