

**BIOL 1200 HISTORY OF THE LIFE SCIENCES Spring 2020  
SYLLABUS & COURSE POLICIES**

**Lecture: TR 11:00-12:15 (BSC 2022)**

**Instructor: Dr. Mark Blackmore**

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**Office Hours: Mon 11-12; Wed 11-12; Thursday 9:30-10 or by appointment**

**Course description:** An introduction to the history and philosophy of biology and related sciences. The development and evolution of major theories and techniques, and interactions between science and culture will be emphasized.

**Scope & Objectives:** By the end of the course students are expected to be able to describe the development of the life sciences as a form of inquiry including major paradigm shifts and their consequences. Students will also explain how technological developments have affected human understanding of the living world and recognize the impact advances in biological knowledge have had on society and human culture. This corresponds to Educational Outcome 1 (Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions in both written and oral formats used in peer-reviewed journals and at scientific meetings.) for the Department of Biology as listed in the

class. In addition, students may be required to research assigned topics, discuss them in class or prepare a PowerPoint presentation to be given to the entire class. **The comprehensive final exam will be given Wednesday, May 6 at 10:15 in BSC 2022.**

**Tentative Schedule – Spring Semester 2019**

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Assigned Reading (Magner):</u>
1	Jan 14 – 16	Origins and definitions; Biology & Ancient Civilizations	<i>Chapters</i> 1-2
2	Jan 21 – 23	Greek Natural Philosophers, Scientists & The Greek Legacy	2
3	Jan 28 – 30	The Greek Legacy; The Renaissance and the Scientific Revolution	2-3
4	Feb 4 – 6	The Renaissance and the Scientific Revolution	3-4
5	Feb 11 – 13*	Scientific Societies; Microscopy; <b>Exam 1</b>	4
6	Feb 18– 20	Problems in Generation	5
7	Feb 25 – 27	Organisms, Embryos and Cells; Physiology	5-6
8	Mar 3 – 5	Microbiology, Virology, and Immunology	7
9	Mar 10 – 12	Evolution	8
	Mar 17 – 19	<b>Spring Break</b>	
10	Mar 24 – 26**	Darwinism and Society; <b>Exam 2</b>	8
11	Mar 31 – Ap 2	Genetics	9
12	Ap 7 – 9	Genetics & Molecular Biology	<del>Mar</del> -2

Mar 1

**Title IX Statement:** Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued,