Organismal Biology

Last Updated: Tue, 01/06/2026

Course prefix: BIOS

Course number: 1108

Section: A

CRN
33387 33392

Instructor first name: Onur

Instructor last name: Birol

Semester: Fall

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

In this course, you will learn how your biology is similar – and different – to the biology of all life on Earth. We will explore the evolutionary history of all life on Earth through the lenses of development and reproduction, signaling and communication, and physiology and organ systems. As we explore the diversity of life on Earth, you'll be able to identify biological patterns and explain how you both are similar and different to the breadth of diversity of life on Earth. You will also develop scientific skills in analyzing and interpreting scientific data to test hypothesis and communicate scientifically. Finally, you will develop and practice skills in metacognition to identify your best learning strategies that you will be able to employ in your future courses and career. This course will foster your learning by using reflective practice, accentuate your critical thinking skills, and develop your confidence in soliciting guidance when problem-solving.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

BIOS 1108 Organismal Biology for Non-Majors

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the STEM area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I ask scientific questions or use data, mathematics, or technology to understand the universe?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will use the scientific method and laboratory procedures or mathematical and computational methods to analyze data, solve problems, and explain natural phenomena.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Inquiry and Analysis
    - Problem-Solving
    - Teamwork