TENTATIVE SYLLABUS FOR IS 1417.001
INTEGRATED SCIENCE II
SPRING 2015

Course Description: Integrated Science II. Four semester hours (3 lecture, 1 lab).

This is a University Studies science course. The interdisciplinary application of scientific principles to society is emphasized. The scientific principles developed in this course are cellular structure, genetics, DNA, astronomical and geological issues, and other topics covered in life earth sciences courses. Connections and applications of these principles to the other sciences and public issues are examined.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Albert Menchaca
Office: STC-344
Phone: 903-468-8765 (no voice mail) Cell: 210-639-1957
email: avmtamuc@gmail.com
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays – 1:00p to 3:00p or by appointment.

Textbook:


Lecture Time and Place: TR 3:30p-4:45p Location: STC122
Labs, time, location: Section 01L T 12:30p-2:30p Location: STC146
Section 02L W Noon-2:00p Location: STC146

Student Learning Outcomes

* Students will gain a better understanding of physical science concepts.
* Students will better understand scientific processes and test for further scientific knowledge.
* Students will understand the conceptual differences between facts, theories, and laws.
* Students will be able to compare the separate science disciplines and make integrative connections.

Grades:

OPTION I – No Final Exam
Lab 25%
3 Exams 75%
TOTAL: 100%

OPTION II – With Final Exam
Lab 25%
3 exams 55%
Final Exam 20%
TOTAL: 100%
Important - There are No Makeup Tests. There is No Extra Credit Work

Letter Grade Breakdown:

- A = 90 and above
- B = 80-89
- C= 70-79
- D = 60-69

A failing grade in lab will automatically result in a failing grade for the entire course. Four (4) consecutive unexcused absences, or six (6) cumulative unexcused absences, will result in a failing grade. A course which is failed due to excessive absences has more serious financial aid consequences than a course which is failed in spite of regular attendance.

Lecture and Final Exam (Tentative):

- Week 1-2 Chapter 15 The Basic Unit of Life – The Cell
- Week 3 Chapter 16 Genetics
- Week 4 Chapter 17 Evolution of Life
- Week 5 Chapter 22 Plate Tectonics
- Week 6-7 Chapter 23 Rocks and Minerals
- Week 8-9 Chapter 26 Weather
- Week 10 Chapter 27 Environmental Ecology
- Week 11-12 Chapter 28 The Solar System
- Week 13-14 Chapter 29 The Universe

Attendance and Tardiness:

Students are expected to be on time and present for all class meetings. Excused absences can be arranged prior to the class period being missed for appropriate activities as determined by the instructor. If an emergency results in an absence, the student should contact the instructor as soon as possible informing the instructor of the emergency and inquiring about ways to make up the missed class. The instructor will determine how to handle the situation. Possible reasons for an excused absence are listed in the “Student’s Guidebook” under class attendance policy. Attendance and tardy records will be maintained and both may result in deductions from your overall grade.

Student Conduct:

Disorderly conduct which interferes with the normal classroom atmosphere will not be tolerated. The classroom instructor is the judge of such behavior and may instruct a disorderly student to leave the room with an unexcused absence or in more serious situations a student may be removed from the class with a failing grade. Students with cell phones must have cell phones set to silent or vibrate mode. You are not permitted to answer calls during class instruction or examination periods.

A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.
Cheating and other Breaches of Academic Conduct:

Academic cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct may result in removal of the student from class with a failing grade or may in extreme cases result in suspension or expulsion from the University as described in the “Code of Student Conduct” section of the “Student’s Guidebook”.

Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services  
Texas A&M University-Commerce  
Gee Library  
Room 132  
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835  
Fax (903) 468-8148  
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Evaluation of Instruction:

Students will be given opportunities to evaluate instruction near the end of the semester. The physics department utilizes a scantron questionnaire with statements regarding various elements of instruction and in addition utilizes an open ended form where students can make comments on all elements of the classroom. These comments are given to the instructor and department head soon after the grades are recorded. If students have concerns about the classroom experience during the semester they should inform the instructor of those concerns and failing a satisfactory response may, as a last resort, contact the physics department head with those concerns.