1. Instructor: Dr. JP Slovak  
   Office: SCI 231  
   Phone: 886-5368  
   Office hours: MWF 10-12, TR 11-12 -Please make an appointment for other times.  
   Email: John.Slovak@tamu.edu


3. Course Description. This class will cover the anatomy, physiology, classification and evolution of animals. This course will employ lecture and discussion.

4. Course Goals: To give the beginning biology student a conceptual and practical understanding necessary for mastery of the life science curriculum. In addition, the student will learn thinking skills necessary for understanding and interpreting scientific information. This class is difficult. Do not make it more so by failing to study an appropriate amount of time. Fifteen to twenty hours a week is a good estimate of the time you need to be successful. *Don't Cram. It does not work.*

5. Student Learning Objectives  
   • Students will demonstrate an understanding of the mechanism of natural selection.  
     *CT #8 Students will be able to analyze, evaluate, or solve problems when given a set of circumstances or data.*  
   • Students will demonstrate a knowledge of homeostasis.  
     *Eqs #4 Students will be able to interpret, test and demonstrate principles revealed in empirical data.*  
   • Students will give a group presentation on the results of one of their lab assignments and explain the methods, results and conclusions of their experiment.  
     *Tw #1 Students will be able to work together toward a shared purpose relevant to the course or discipline with a sense of shared responsibility for meeting that purpose.*  
     *Com #1 In written, oral, and/or visual communication, A&M-Commerce students will communicate in a manner appropriate to audience and occasion, with an evident message and organizational structure.*

6. Quizzes: Quizzes and activities will be available weekly on the Mastering biology website. These need to be completed weekly. One the due date has passed you will not be allowed to make them up. These will be available on the mastering biology website: [http://www.masteringbio.com/site](http://www.masteringbio.com/site) The instructions to access the site come with the textbook.

7. Tests: Tests will consist of objective questions. Tests will not be made up unless the absence is excused according to university policy. If the test is not made-up the student will receive no (0) points. The makeup must be completed within one week of the original test date unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e. extended hospital stay).
7. Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Exams</td>
<td>150 pts (each test is worth 50 points)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Final</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes and activities</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>400 pts</td>
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A = 360 pts or higher
B = 320-359 pts
C = 280-319 pts
D = 240-279 pts
F = below 240 pts

8. Attendance and Absences: You are expected to attend ALL scheduled lectures and labs and take the exams as scheduled. You will be held responsible for all information covered in lecture. Sign-in sheets will be circulated; please sign your name clearly. Do not sign anyone’s name but your own... signing in for someone else is a form of academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Excessive unexcused absences will result in loss of points from your grade. For each five unexcused absences a reduction of ten (10) points will be subtracted from your final grade.

9. Topics and reading assignments (chapters)

Intro to evolution (22)
Evolution of populations (23)
Origin of Species (24)
The History of Life on Earth (25)
Phylogeny and the Tree of Life (26)
Animal structure and Function (40)
Animal Nutrition (41)
Circulation and Gas Exchange (42)
The body’s Defenses (43)
Control of the Internal environment (44)
Chemical signals in animals (45)
Animal reproduction (46)
Animal Development (47)
Nervous systems (48)
Sensory and motor mechanisms (49)
Behavioral Ecology (51)

*All reading assignments should be completed within the week in which the corresponding lecture takes place. All topics in the readings will not necessarily be covered in lecture, but you may find questions from the reading on tests. Please read.

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
Halladay Student Services Building
Room 303 A/D
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

Academic Honesty:  All students are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all academic work. Conduct that violates the accepted standards of academic honesty (as described in the Student's Guidebook), which includes cheating and plagiarism, will result in a grade of F in the course. Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Copying of material, whether, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles, will result in a grade of F for the class and can result in further disciplinary action.

Final Exam Schedule:
http://web.tamu-commerce.edu/admissions/registrar/academicCalendars/finalExamSchedule.aspx

“All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” (Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

A helpful website:
http://www.biology.arizona.edu/

We are what we repeatedly do; Excellence then, is not an act but a habit.
-Aristotle