



### PREPARING FOR THE COURSE

## Outline of General Biology

### Course Description

General Biology (BIO 160) provides a foundation for the various branches of biological studies. This course often builds a familiarity with cellular and molecular biology, ecology, evolution and the diversity of life.

### Typical Course Mechanics

- 4 hours of lecture a week (or 5 hours online video)
- 4 hours of lab a week
- Expect at least one midterm and a final, though most classes break up the tests into 4-5 midterms

Generally, a student should expect to spend 8 hours a week covering lecture and lab instruction and an additional 5-10 hours a week doing homework and studying.

Communicate in advance of any absence. You may not be able to make-up missed labs.

### Topics Generally Covered

Cells Structure
Cellular Interactions
Biological Macromolecules
Cellular Respiration
Photosynthesis
Mitosis
Meiosis
Genetics
Evolution
Phylogenies
Biodiversity
Plant Reproduction
Ecosystems

### PRE-REQUISITE KNOWLEDGE OR SKILLS

Because this course is a pre-requisite for higher-level science courses, there often aren't any required courses prior to this one. It is often suggested that a student take introductory chemistry or have taken chemistry/biology in high-school before taking this course. If you haven't taken college-level chemistry or high-school biology/chemistry (or it has been a long time) you may want to preview the following topics:

Atoms & Molecules
Chemical Bonding
Acids & Bases
Properties of Water
Cells

Review for the above topics can be done using online resources such as [www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org) or referring to your prior course materials. Brushing up or previewing these topics can help you get a better idea of what may be presented during your course.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

#### Books & Supplies

Most classes require a textbook and may or may not require a lab manual. Often instructors will post lab and class assignments on online classroom portals rather than making you buy a packet beforehand. Try to learn about which online system they'll be using.

#### Study Support

Instructor office hours and institutional study labs are always a great place to get support but the Training Fund also has both in-person tutoring and online (Tutor.com) tutoring options available year-round! Visit: [www.healthcareerfund.org/tutoring](http://www.healthcareerfund.org/tutoring) to learn more!