

Bio-Bits

A Newsletter from Brookdale's Biology Department
September/October 2006

WELCOME

Welcome to the **Biology Department** at Brookdale! This semester, the Department is offering 120 sections of 14 different courses – 8 in Biology and 6 in Horticulture. One-hundred-fifty of the 1200+ students enrolled this Fall identify themselves as Biology Majors.

The Biology Department includes eight full-time faculty members, ten adjunct faculty members, ten learning assistants, and one office assistant. All laboratory classes are offered in the basement of the Natural and Applied Sciences (NAS) Building. Lectures are scheduled in buildings throughout the campus. The main Science Office is located in NAS049 and can be reached at 732-224-2402.

STUDENT SUCCESS

The Biology Department is committed to **student success**. Support services include Independent Study Laboratories, a Science Computer Lab, Faculty Office Hours and Class Recitation Sessions.

Independent Study (Open) Laboratories

In Independent Study Lab, materials from closed lab sessions are made available for additional study. Learning assistants staff the labs, which are open 35 hours per week or more. To ensure success on the course practicals, students should visit Open Lab regularly throughout the semester:

General Biology/Life Sciences Independent Study Lab Hours Room NAS 041

Monday	10:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Tuesday	10:00 AM – 3:00 PM 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Wednesday	10:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Thursday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Friday	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Anatomy and Physiology I and II Independent Study Lab Hours Room NAS 056

Monday	8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Tuesday	8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Wednesday	8:30 AM – 8:00 PM
Thursday	8:30 AM – 11:30 AM 1:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Friday	8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Science Computer Lab

A Science Computer Lab is open to all students enrolled in Biology for class work, lab work, research, studying, and online tests. Text CDs are loaded on the computers; software for a number of biology topics is also available. Topics include biochemistry, the cell, cellular respiration, photosynthesis, mitosis, DNA and heredity, to name a few. Black and white printing is free, but photographs from course websites and large documents cannot be printed. Alberto Larotonda, Learning Assistant (732-224-2109), can provide technical assistance with software and for programs such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Science Computer Lab Hours NAS 019

Monday	8:30 AM – 12:30 PM 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Tuesday	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Wednesday	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday	8:30 AM – 12:30 PM 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Friday	9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Faculty Office Hours – 5 Hours/Week

Students seeking clarification of course material may do so during faculty office hours. Hours for each instructor are posted on the door of the Science Office, NAS 049.

Recitation Sessions

Weekly recitation sessions are scheduled for students enrolled in BIOL111 and BIOL105. The optional sessions, held before and/or after class, provide students with a regularly scheduled time to seek clarification of course material.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS

Freshmen may not know exactly what is expected of them in college level classes. The list below, developed by Fred Drewes in *How to Study Science* (Wm.C. Brown Publishers, 1992), provides helpful guidance.

“Instructors assume you will

1. know how to study;
2. have an appropriate academic background;
3. **study until you learn the course content;**
4. **seek help if you need it;**
5. know how to determine what to study;
6. be self-motivated;
7. be self-disciplined;
8. be self-directed.”

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

To maximize your college experience and minimize disruptions to fellow classmates, arrive at class on time, leave and return to class only if absolutely necessary, turn your cell phone ringer off, do not text message during lecture and do not speak to others while the instructor is talking.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE

The Biology Department Web Page contains useful information for students, including descriptions of Weekly Labs, Course Descriptions and Program Requirements. Access the Web Page by going to the Brookdale Home Page (www.brookdalecc.edu), clicking "Departments" on the left hand side of the screen, and then clicking on "Biology".

BIOLOGY BOOK EXCHANGE

A bookshelf located near the Biology Office (NAS049) is often filled with science texts and journals. These materials are for students to read, enjoy, and learn. Please feel free to both take and contribute to the shelf.

BIOLOGY BULLETIN BOARD

Science news is posted on a bulletin board near the Biology Office. Updated weekly, the board contains newspaper and journal articles that highlight current topics in biology. Be sure to read the board regularly!

HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS

Students interested in pursuing a Health Science Degree at Brookdale should speak with Enrollment Specialists Beth Stryker (bstryker@brookdalecc.edu; 732-224-2330) or Cara Novak (cnovak@brookdalecc.edu; 732-224-2275). The Enrollment Specialists distribute Health Science Packets and "Checklists" that describe (a) the pre-requisites for admission to the programs and (b) the requirements for the degrees.

BROOKDALE SCIENCE CLUBS

SCIENCE (BIOLOGY) CLUB

The first meeting of the Biology Club will be Thursday, October 5th, at 12:00 in NAS 053. Consider becoming an officer of the club. Bring your lunch! Snacks will be served. Contact Kristin Boccumini (kboccumini@brookdalecc.edu, 732-224-2857), Sally Cohen (scohen@brookdalecc.edu, 732-224-2132), or Pat Dillon (pdillon@brookdalecc.edu, 732-224-2871).

Horticulture Club

Brookdale's Horticulture Club meets every Friday from 9:30 AM – Noon in NAS 011. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact Leslie Van Cleve (lvancleve@brookdalecc.edu, 732-224-2387).

New Jersey Water Watch

NJ Water Watch, a project of AmeriCorps and the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG), is back on campus again this year! If you are interested in participating in stream monitoring and/or other Water Watch activities, contact Campus Organizer Katie Feeny at (732) 224-1875.

W.E.S.T.

W.E.S.T. (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology) is an organization that supports and encourages women in their academic careers by organizing study groups, mentoring, and providing information on careers, scholarships, and grant opportunities. If you are interested in becoming a member, contact Arminda Wey in the Math Department (awey@brookdalecc.edu).

KATHLEEN DILLON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Christina A. McCann, this year's recipient of the Kathleen Dillon Memorial Scholarship. Christina, a full-time student at Brookdale, is also the mother of a toddler and a part-time waitress. After graduating from Brookdale, Christina plans to major in Nutritional Science at Cook College – Rutgers University and become a Registered Dietician. Good Luck, Christina!

SCIENCE OFF-CAMPUS

Museums: Bodies, The Exhibition will be at the South Street Seaport Exhibition Center 10 AM to 10 PM daily through December, 2006. An incredible display of preserved human bodies, this event is definitely worth the boat ride (www.bodiestickets.com; 1-888-9 BODIES).

TV: Channel 13 will broadcast three interesting science shows in October:

The Monterey Bay Aquarium, Sat, Oct 21st, 6PM
Animals Behaving Worse, Sun, Oct 22nd, 8PM
Test Tube Babies, Thursday, Oct 23rd, 9PM

Websites: www.environmentnewjersey.org is the website for the newly restructured *Environment New Jersey*, the environmental arm of NJPIRG (New Jersey Public Interest Research Group). In addition highlighting the latest environmental news, this site describes the efforts and activities of NJ Water Watch (see "Clubs").

www.ucsusa.org is the homepage for the Union of Concerned Scientists. Founded in 1969 by faculty and students at MIT, the mission of UCS is to prevent the misuse of science and technology in society and promote truthful discourse regarding scientific findings.

Photo Contest: Wild Birds Unlimited on Route 35 in Middletown is sponsoring a Nature Photo Contest. Entries are due 10/20; the winner will receive a \$25 Store Gift Certificate. The store is also hosting programs on Hawks (10/6) and Puffins (10/20). www.wbu.com/middletown.

The first man of science was he who looked into a thing, not to learn whether it furnished him with food or shelter...but who sought to know it for the gratification of knowing. Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Poet and Critic (from Science Says, by Rob Kaplan, 2000.)