## BSC 1010C: General Biology I Valencia College (West Campus) Course Syllabus Spring 2019 TWK

## <u>Instructor Information</u> <u>Course Information</u>

**Instructor:** Dr. Anita Behari Course: BSC 1010C General Biology I

Email: abehari@valenciacollege.edu CRN: 27654
Office Hours: Meetings are to be Credits: 4

arranged via email. Course dates: 2/11/19 - 04/27/19

Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of all mandated courses in reading, mathematics,

English, and English for Academic Purposes.

#### Meeting days, hours, and locations:

Days	Hours	Locations	
Monday	2:30 PM to 6:30 PM	West Campus – AHS Room 316 (Lab)	
Wednesday	2:30 PM to 6:30 PM	West Campus – HSB Room 107 (Lecture)	

**Course Objective:** To develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts of biology at the cell and molecular levels.

Course Description: General Biology I lecture and lab serves as a prerequisite for advanced biology courses, and is intended for those majoring in Biology or related disciplines. This is a face-to-face lab and lecture. Students should expect to develop foundational knowledge of fundamental biological concepts, including (but not limited to) the scientific method, the chemical structure of living matter, the structure and organization of the cell, metabolic functions, reproduction, genetics, and evolution.

Students should be prepared to actively participate in class, complete assigned reading, writing, and other college-level assignments.

#### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Utilize critical thinking and scientific reasoning skills
- Utilize the scientific method
- Understand the various levels of biological organization
- Differentiate between living and non-living entities
- Model molecular structure and associate structures with functions associated with living organisms
- Compare and contrast the structure and function of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells
- Demonstrate an understanding of the structure and functions of cell membranes and the implications for cellular processes
- Explain the processes of energy transformation as they relate to cellular metabolism
- Evaluate asexual and sexual reproduction as they relate to genetic variation
- Model the processes and patterns of inheritance in eukaryotic organisms
- Describe or model the regulation and expression of genetic information

## **Valencia College Core Competencies:**

The faculty of Valencia College has identified four core competencies that define the learning outcomes for a successful Valencia graduate. These competencies are at the heart of the Valencia experience and provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia College. You will be given opportunities to develop and practice these competencies in this class. The four competencies are:

- 1. **Think** think clearly, and creatively, analyze, synthesize, integrate and evaluate in the many domains of human inquiry
- 2. Value make reasoned judgments and responsible commitments
- 3. Act act purposefully, effectively and responsibly
- 4. **Communicate** communicate with different audiences using varied means

#### **Required Materials:**

- 1. Campbell's Biology, Custom Edition for Valencia College, 3rd edition, Volume 1 with MasteringBiology. (2016) Taken from Campbell's Biology, 11th edition. Pearson Learning Solutions.
- 2. BSC 1010C General Biology I Laboratory Manual, 3rd edition (2017). Lindbeck and Matthews. Hayden-McNeil.
- 3. Lab coat, close toe shoes, and a permanent marker (e.g. Sharpie).

#### **Course Policies:**

Lecture Attendance: The College believes that regular attendance and class participation are significant factors, which promote success in college. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. Students are expected to attend all lectures unless unavoidable emergencies prevent attendance. Documented absences will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Students arriving more than 5 minutes late will be recorded as being absent from class unless they notify the instructor of their presence in class at the end of the period. Please note that for undocumented absences a score of zero will assigned for in-class assignments on that date. Students are not permitted to leave class early; leaving early will result in an absence and a zero for the assignments for the day.

<u>Lab Attendance</u>: Students are required to attend all laboratory sessions. Students must arrive on time for lab sessions. Each lab session will begin with a quiz; students arriving more than 5 minutes late to lab will not be able to complete the quiz. There are no make-ups for lab sessions. If a student must miss a lab session, please contact me ASAP. Documentation is required for all absences, 2 or more unexcused absences will result in either an administrative withdrawal if before the withdrawal deadline, or a failing grade for the entire course if after the withdrawal deadline.

<u>Laboratory Safety:</u> The laboratory sessions may involve the use of hazardous materials (e.g. chemicals) or equipment that needs to be handled with care. Instructions will be provided on how to handle these materials or equipment. Students must use proper lab techniques and personal protective equipment (PPE) to ensure the safety of themselves and their peers during lab sessions. **Students must wear a lab coat, close toe shoes, and have their lab notebook, failure to do so may result in a reduction of points for that lab session, or the inability to complete the lab for that day.** Failure to follow procedures and safety instructions may result in removal

from the lab, and an absence for that lab session. Students assume all personal risks and liabilities for failing to follow instructions. **No food or drinks are permitted in labs.** If a student needs to eat or drink during lab sessions, please step into the hallway to do so.

The laboratory environment will often involve the use of and/or exposure to chemicals or other hazardous substances/equipment. If you are pregnant or plan on becoming pregnant during this course and are concerned about your exposure to these chemicals or hazardous substances/equipment, please see your instructor to discuss possible alternative arrangements. Students are also invited to contact Mr. Ryan Kane, Title IX Coordinator/Equal Opportunity Officer, 407-582-3421, rkane8@valenciacollege.edu, regarding requests for alternative arrangements relating to pregnancy.

<u>Participation</u>: The instructor reserves the right to call on students at random. Participation is highly encouraged, and will help to create an environment of active learning.

<u>Email</u>: Please use the email subject line to specify the purpose of the email. Please contact me via email if you need to set up a one-on-one meeting with at least two dates and times that you are available to meet. I am typically available for meetings before or after class. I will typically respond to emails within 24 hours. Please do not send multiple emails for the same issue.

"Valencia College is committed to providing each student a quality educational experience. Faculty members have set high standards of instruction for themselves and for you. If you have a problem in a class, your first step is to talk to your instructor. If you are still dissatisfied, you may talk with the academic dean of the division for your class. We will work together to resolve any issues that arise."

<u>Cell Phone and Technology Policy:</u> Laptops and tablets are permitted only for note taking purposes, and must be approved by the instructor. Cell phones and all other communication devices must be switched off or on silent mode, and put away for the duration of the class. Students seen using a device and creating a distraction will be asked to leave the classroom. Recording devices are permitted for use in class.

Assigned Readings: To be active in the learning process, students are expected to read the assigned chapters before class. Activities during class time will require students to have read the material beforehand. Certain activities may require students to have their textbooks with them; I will make an announcement in class, on Canvas, or via email if students need to bring their textbooks to the following lecture session.

<u>MasteringBiology</u>: New books purchased from the bookstore will come with an access code to MasteringBiology; a code can also be purchased online. MasteringBiology comes with a 14-day free trial; therefore, you must sign up for an account on the first day of class, no exceptions. MasteringBiology can be accessed via Canvas. Missed assignments cannot be made up.

<u>Laboratory Assignments and Exams:</u> Pre-lab assignments are due at the beginning of the lab period; late assignments will not be accepted. For the pre-lab assignments, please write a one-paragraph summary of each lab for that lab session. If a lab session covers two labs, then your pre-lab assignment should have at least two paragraphs describing the two labs being completed on that date.

Lab notebooks will be checked at the beginning of the following lab session for completion of the previous sessions lab. Late assignments will not be accepted. Please read the labs before coming to class, your ability to succeed in the lab portion of this class depends on this. There will be two lab practical exams during lab sessions of the semester. These exams will consist of multiple-choice questions, short answer questions, fill-in-the-blank, or true or false questions based on the previous lab sessions. Please arrive to class on time with the appropriate PPE for lab.

Extra Credit: There will a maximum of 4% extra credit for the semester that can be earned by creating study guides for exams. Study guides must be turned in to the instructor on exam day prior to the beginning of the exam. Study guides should consist of a comprehensive summary of each section of a chapter. A study guide should demonstrate a student's understanding of the material by incorporating the chapter's vocabulary and core content in the student's own voice.

Exams: There will be three exams during the lecture sessions of this course and a final exam on the last day of class. Exams will cover material from the assigned readings, lectures, and assignments. Exams will begin promptly at the beginning of class. Students must arrive on time for exams. No student will be permitted to take an exam once a student has completed the exam and left the room. Lecture exams are cumulative; students should expect to see material covered on previous exams. If you miss an exam, please contact me ASAP. The ability of a student to make up a missed exam is at my discretion. Excusable absences that warrant a make-up exam include a medical emergency, a legal issue, a car accident, etc. Students are required to purchase scantrons (Scantron Form 882-E type) for exams; these can be bought at the bookstore. A #2 pencil is needed for scantrons please do not use ink. Scantrons and exams will not be returned, but can be viewed if requested. Grades will be made available via Canvas. The final exam will be 100 questions, 75 multiple-choice questions, and 25 fill-in-the-blank, or true or false questions. Failure to take the final exam will result in an automatic "F" for the course.

<u>Withdrawal:</u> Students are responsible for withdrawal from classes prior to the withdrawal deadline of **April 5<sup>th</sup> 2019**. A grade of "W" will be assigned to students withdrawing from the course before the withdrawal deadline. Please be aware that withdrawing from a class can affect your financial aid. It is highly recommended that students meet with a financial aid counselor prior to withdrawing from a class.

In order to academically maintain financial aid, students must meet all of the following requirements:

- Complete 67% of all classes attempted, and
- Maintain a Valencia GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
- Maintain an overall GPA of 2.0 or higher, and
- Complete their degree within the 150% timeframe

Detailed information about maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP) can be found at: http://valenciacollege.edu/finaid/satisfactory\_progress.cfm

The instructor reserves the right to withdraw a student for repeated violation of the attendance policy. Any student who withdraws from a class during a third or subsequent attempt in the same course will be assigned a grade of "F".

Quizzes: A total of three quizzes will be given during lecture throughout the semester. Prior notice may or may not be given for quizzes. There will be no make-up quizzes.

#### Students with Disabilities:

"Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a Notification to Instructor (NTI) form from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class; accommodations will not be applied retroactively. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodations based on appropriate documentation of disabilities."

West Campus SSB, Rm. 102 Phone: 407-582-1523 Fax: 407-582-1326

Academic Dishonesty: Each student is required to follow Valencia policy regarding academic honesty. All forms of academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, misuse) are prohibited as stated in the Student Code of Conduct and will be disciplined or penalized accordingly. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of each student's individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states, "group project." With the first occurrence of academic dishonesty, in any form, a student will receive a failing grade for that single assignment/assessment. Proof of a subsequent events of academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade in the class along with a referral to the Dean of Science and the Dean of Students. Instances of academic dishonesty are subject to administrative penalties, including warning, probation, suspension, and/or expulsion from the college.

<u>Grading:</u> As per FERPA guidelines, grades will only be made available in person or through Canvas. Grades will not be discussed over email; you must schedule a meeting with me if you want to talk about your grades.

There will be a total of 1000 points to earn for the semester.

Lecture					
Lecture Exams	125 points each x 3 exams (375 points				
	total)				
Quizzes	15 points each x 3 quizzes (45 points				
	total)				
Assignments (In class	130 points				
and take home)					
Mastering Biology	50 points				
Final	150 points				

Total 750 points

Lab					
Lab Activities and	10 points each x 12 labs (120 points				
Assignments	total)				
Lab exams	40 points each x 2 exams (80 points				
	total)				
Lab Quizzes	6.25 points each x 8 quizzes (50 points				
	total)				

Total 250 points

The following grading scale will be used to determine final grades.

A: 100%-89% B: 88%-77% C: 76%-65% D: 64%-53% F: 52%-0%

#### There will be no additional curving.

If you find at any point in the semester you need help, please do not hesitate to ask. Please ask questions if you are unsure or need clarification on something. Tutoring is available at the Tutoring Center (Building 7 Room 240).

<u>Smarthinking Online Tutoring:</u> Smarthinking is a free online tutoring service, where you can receive live, online tutoring as well as submit your essays for comments. To access this resource, log into Atlas, click on the "Courses" tab, and click on "Tutoring (online) – Smart Thinking," located under "My Courses."

## **Important Dates**

February 18 - Drop/Refund Deadline 11:59 PM

February 19 – 28 - No Show Reporting Period

February 27 – Lecture Exam 1

March 11 - 17 - Spring Break (No Classes)

March 18 - Lab Practical Exam I

March 27 – Lecture Exam 2

April 5 - Withdrawal Deadline – "W" Grade 11:59 PM

April 8 – Lecture Exam 3

April 15 – Lab Practical Exam II

April 24 - Final Exam

April 27 - Term Ends

#### **Weather Emergencies**

In the case of weather emergencies, you can find out about school closings by signing up to update your information for Valencia Alerts.

#### **BayCare Services**

"Valencia is committed to making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home or work. Students have 24 hour unlimited access to the **Baycare Behavioral Health's** confidential student assistance program phone counseling services by calling (800) 878-5470. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students."

## **Security Statement**

Chief of security:

We want to reassure you that our security officers are here around the clock to ensure the safety and security of the campus community. It's important to remain alert and aware of your surroundings, especially during the early morning or evening hours. Remember that you can always call security for an escort if you feel uncomfortable walking alone on campus. White security phones can also be found in many of our buildings; simply pick up the phone and security will answer. Finally, report any suspicious persons to West Campus Security at 407-582-1000, 407-582-1030 (after-hours number) or by using the yellow emergency call boxes located on light poles in the parking lots and along walkways.

#### **Tentative Class Schedule**

Students are expected to do the assigned reading before coming to class. The "Reading Assignments" column contains the chapters that will be discussed during that class session.

Lab Schedule	<b>Lecture Date:</b>	Lectures	Reading Assignments
February 11 <sup>th</sup> Reaction Times	February 13 <sup>th</sup>	Chapters 1 & 2	Chapters 1 & 2
February 18 <sup>th</sup> Atoms and Molecules	February 20 <sup>th</sup>	Chapters 3 & 4	Chapters 3 & 4
February 25 <sup>th</sup> Use of the Microscope & The Cell	February 27 <sup>th</sup>	Exam 1 (Chapters 1-4) Chapter 5 & 6	Chapter 5 & 6
March 4 <sup>th</sup> Diffusion I and Diffusion II	March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Chapters 7 & 8	Chapters 7 & 8
Spring Break (No Class)	March 11 <sup>th</sup> – March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Break (No Class)	Spring Break (No Class)
March 18 <sup>th</sup> Exam & Enzymes	March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Chapters 9 & 10	Chapters 9 & 10
March 25 <sup>th</sup> Respiration & Photosynthesis	March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Exam 2 (Chapters 5-10) Chapter 12	Chapter 12
April 1 <sup>st</sup> Mitosis and Meiosis & Mendelian Genetics	April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chapters 13 & 14	Chapters 13 & 14
April 8 <sup>th</sup> Human Phenotypes & Review	April 10 <sup>th</sup>	Exam 3 (Chapters 12-14) Chapter 15 & 16	Chapter 15 & 16
April 15 <sup>th</sup> Exam	April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Chapter 17 Review	Chapter 17 Review
	April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Final Exam	

## **Classroom Rules and Student Expectations**

- 1. Students will be respectful and courteous towards their instructor and peers.
- 2. Students will come to class ready to learn and will avoid disruptive behavior.
- 3. Students will be mature and will act responsibly.

The Valencia Student Code of Conduct can be accessed at: <a href="http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-03-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf">http://valenciacollege.edu/generalcounsel/policy/documents/Volume8/8-03-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf</a>

The instructor reserves the right to ask a disruptive student to leave the classroom, resulting in a zero for in-class assignments for that day and an absence for attendance.

#### **Study Tips and Advice for Student Success**

- 1. Attendance and participation are integral to your success in this course. Please arrive on time and anticipate spending the full four hours in class. Due to this class following the TWK schedule, we only have ten weeks to get through the entire curriculum, and we will be working at a steady and efficient pace.
- 2. Read the assigned chapters before coming to class. Your ability to participate and fully engage during lecture and lab are contingent upon reading the material beforehand.
- 3. Ask questions. Please do not hesitate to ask questions if you are unsure about something. Chances are one of your classmates has the same question.
- 4. Check your email and Canvas on a regular basis. To ensure that you are fully aware of any online announcements or activities, please make sure you are regularly checking your email and Canvas.
- 5. To succeed in this class, you must take the initiative to <u>study on a regular basis</u>. This means setting aside 1-2 hours daily to review material. To facilitate the learning process, rewrite your notes, join a study group, utilize tutoring services on campus, etc. If I come across a resource I think will be helpful (e.g. videos, papers, etc.) I will share these via Canvas; I encourage you to do the same to benefit your peers. Lastly, take advantage of the extra credit opportunity, these study guides will benefit you and earn you credit.

The instructor reserves the right to change any part of the syllabus or make changes to the course schedule at any time during the semester for any reason. Students will be notified of these changes either in class or via Canvas and are expected to be regularly checking Canvas and their email for updates.

# LETTER FROM THE DEAN Expectations of Academic Integrity

Welcome to the Science Division of Valencia College's West Campus; we are enthused to have this opportunity to assist you in achieving your educational goals. In working to provide you with the best learning experience at Valencia College, my expectation is that each of our faculty and students maintain the highest ethical academic standards. From your professors, you can expect the following:

- 1. They will be on time to class and available during their scheduled office hours.
- 2. They will return graded tests, labs and other assignments when promised and within a reasonable period of time.
- 3. They will answer emails and phone calls within 48 business hours.
- 4. They will properly cite their references and resources, where applicable.

## From you, we expect the following:

- 1. You will take your exams without referring to any books, notes, electronic devices or classmates unless you are specifically instructed that a test is open-book or collaborative.
- 2. You will not tell other students about test questions or answers before or during their exam and you will protect the exam from being seen by others.
- 3. You will avoid even the appearance of cheating by not looking in the direction of other exams, by not wearing clothing/hats/visors that hide your eyes, by keeping your belongings, other than pens, pencils and erasers away from your desktop, by going to the restroom before the exam and by asking your professor for permission and supervision if you need to retrieve another pen, pencil or eraser from your backpack or purse.
- 4. You will not allow anyone else to be the author of any part of your essays, lab reports or other written assignments and you will not include any materials from any sources (books, journals, other students, the internet, etc.) unless you give credit to those sources.
- 5. Unless approved by both professors, you may not use the same written work for a grade in two separate courses.

It is my hope that you will think about why it is important that we each show academic integrity and how cheating and plagiarism affect all of us, including those guilty of these academic crimes. Some students think that it only hurts their grade if they get caught cheating or plagiarizing, but cheaters typically lie not only to others, but to themselves. Eventually, cheaters pay a price.

- Those who cheat typically fail licensure exams, since they don't really know the material. Without a professional license, they won't be able to get employment. Would you want to be treated by a doctor who cheated in order to pass an exam that covered his or her knowledge of your disease? Also, if they falsify a patient's medical records, can you guess what can happen to them?
- > Research scientists who falsify data are typically discredited and their reputations can be permanently ruined.
- Although you may think your professors have no clue when a student is cheating, usually your classmates do and some will inform your professor.
- > Cheating becomes habitual. See what happens when employees cheat their employer.
- > Students who let others cheat off them are not doing anyone a favor. If you are in a highly competitive field, you may ultimately be aiding your competition.
- > Guess what a professor says to a student seeking a letter of recommendation when they know the student cheated or plagiarized.
- Finally, what happens to a person's self-esteem and to their reputation when they act unethically by cheating or plagiarizing?

Use the following as your guide: "Each student is required to follow Valencia policy regarding academic honesty. All work submitted by students is expected to be the result of the student's individual thoughts, research, and self-expression unless the assignment specifically states 'group project.' To get the most out of each of your classes, it is best to learn how to study for long term comprehension, not just to memorize facts. Study so you can teach others what you are learning. My motto is, "if you can't teach what you are learning to others, you don't really know the material." Academic dishonesty, in the forms of cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated and for most of our science professors will result in a student getting a zero on a test or assignment for the first offense and then an F for the course if a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing again; at that point the Dean of Students will also be notified. Don't throw away your dreams and your reputation by showing a lack of academic integrity. We wish you the best and want you to succeed and be proud of your accomplishments at Valencia.

Dr. Robert Gessner

Valencia College West Campus Dean of Science

## LETTER FROM THE DEAN

## Expectations of a Valencia College Science Student

Welcome to the Science Division of Valencia College's West Campus; we are enthused to have this opportunity to assist you in achieving your educational goals. Higher education is a privilege and an opportunity; it is your responsibility to realize that you are in control of those behaviors and actions that can enable success in this course.

From your professors, you can expect the following:

- 1. They will be prompt, courteous and respectful.
- 2. They will provide a professional learning environment throughout the entire scheduled instructional period.
- 3. They will provide an up-to-date syllabus; when changes need to be made, they will announce changes in a manner that is conveyed to all students in their class.
- 4. They will provide you with a course that is of necessary rigor to prepare you for the career you have chosen; because the class you are taking transfers to a four year college or university, it will be taught with the same academic expectations. The bonus of starting your education at Valencia, when compared to attending a four year college, is you will be able to get more personal attention with small class sizes and you will be able to save money; the classes are not easier.
- 5. They will offer time outside of class to discuss your questions.
- 6. They will be available to discuss your class concerns in private, outside of class time; you should try to resolve your class concerns with your professor before you try to voice your concerns with administrators.
- 7. They will respond to emails within 2 business days.
- 8. They will expect from you what they have expected from the many students who passed their classes in the past.

#### In return, this is **what your professor will expect from you**:

1. You will be prompt, courteous and respectful.

Prompt means you come to class on time, ready to work, with all assignments completed before you enter class or lab. It means that you have studied, that all conversations, texting and diversions come to a stop and that you are ready to contribute to a positive learning environment from the beginning of the class or lab.

Courtesy means you are polite in your attitude and behavior towards your professor and classmates.

Respectfulness means that you regard everyone's classroom experience as valuable to them, that you accept your professor's expertise and experience to create relevant course objectives and that you treat college and personal property with care.

- 2. You will read your syllabus; your syllabus is a contract between your professor and you. Be aware of deadlines to complete assignments on time and know your professor's attendance policy. You will need to attend class for the full length of time allotted to your science class and lab.
- 3. You will be aware of Valencia College policies and procedures found in the college catalog; ignorance of policies and procedures doesn't mean they don't apply.

- 4. You will be serious about learning; it is your responsibility to be an active participant in your own learning. You will need to devote sufficient time to learn the material presented by your professor; for most students, this means you will need to spend at least two hours studying for every hour of instruction. Learning is an action verb; you will need to do more than sit through class and reread your notes to be successful. To succeed in higher level classes, you must retain the information, concepts and skills you will learn; this can only happen if you work at learning to make the course content a part of your long term memory. Do not cram!!
- 5. You will be encouraged to produce your own study guides. Most college professors do not provide study guides, but they can give you tips that will help you produce your own study guides to gain a better understanding of the course content.
- 6. You will be expected to participate fully in classroom activities. The work you produce must be your own; cheating in any form is not tolerated and your professor will have specific consequences, in their syllabus, which will be enforced should cheating occur.
- 7. You will be expected to contribute to a positive learning environment. Avoid classmates who speak negatively, or who have a negative outlook, about your class or your professor. Instead, get to know your professor during office hours; you will learn much more with a positive attitude.
- 8. You will be held to a high standard of maturity and responsibility. Disruptive behaviors will not be tolerated in the classroom or lab. First time disruptions will be handled by your professor and may include a request that you leave the class or lab. Very serious or repeated disruptions will be reported, to the Dean of Science and the Dean of Students, with specific consequences that can include your permanent removal from the class. Disruptions include:
  - Being noisy when arriving late to class or leaving early.
  - Carrying on private conversations while the professor is talking.
  - Disrespectful language, tone and mannerisms.
  - Sleeping or attempting to sleep in class.
  - Repeatedly asking unnecessary or irrelevant questions.

My wish is that you get the best learning value from the science classes that you are taking. With everyone abiding by the expectations in this letter, your science classes at Valencia should be the next step in achieving your academic dreams.

Dr. Robert Gessner West Campus Dean of Science Valencia College