Goals: This course is designed to give you a hands-on overview of protist, fungal, plant and animal life, as well as an overview of flowering plant and mammalian anatomy. The topics in this lab course are synchronous with those covered in BIOL 1123 and are designed to assist in understanding the same concepts. However, BIOL 1123 is a separate course and the grade for that course is entirely separate from the grade for this course. My own goal is to help you appreciate the loving elegance of design which God built into all life, and to enable you to glimpse the joy of our creator in the beautifully designed details.

Instructor: Mrs. Karen Rispin  
Office: Glaske 0144  
Office Phone: 233-3957  
Email: KarenRispin@letu.edu - I check my email often and am happy to hear from you.


Class time and location: Glaske S101; Section 01: Th 8:30 – 10:50 am; Section 02: Th 3:00 – 5:20 pm.

Text: Investigating Biology Lab Manual 5th Ed. by Morgan and Carter, published by Benjamin Cummings  
Please also bring your Lecture Text to lab.

Attendance: Quizzes are given in at the beginning of each lab. You must notify me by email well before the lab you miss if you want an excused absence. Work missed without an excused absence can not be made up. For all excused absences, work missed must be made up within a week unless otherwise arranged in advance.

Clothing policy: Do not wear your best clothes. Do not wear sandals, open toed shoes, tops that do not cover your middle, or shorts or skirts that do not cover your knees (chemicals can burn bare skin). Bring eye protection. Students incorrectly dressed will be asked to change.

Grading:  
A > 90.5 %; B > 80.5 %; C > 70.5 %; D > 60.5 %; F < 60.5 %  
Group Quizzes = 50 points  
Individual quizzes = 100 points  
Lab book fully completed and filled out by end of each lab period = 100 points  
2 lab exams = 100 points each  
Lab report = 50 points;  
Lab report: Follow the format in the handout attached and posted on blackboard.  
The two lab exams will be short answer and you will move from one station to another.

Keep track: At the end of the semester, if you have a grade just under a letter threshold (say an 80%) I will not raise it to the next higher letter grade. Keep track so that you realize you are near a letter threshold soon enough to raise your grade yourself.

Check grades within a week: If you want to question a grade on any assignment or exam, you must do that within a week of receiving your grade. Last minute attempts to get a grade changed on previous assignments at the end of the semester will not work.

Late assignments: 10% is lost for each day work is handed in late.

Extra Credit: I do not offer unique individual extra credit assignments, so there will be no way to rescue your grade at the last minute.
Academic Honesty: See page 7 and 8 in the Student Handbook for a clear explanation of academic honesty definition and policies. Academic dishonesty of any kind may result in notification of your advisor and the student affairs office and may include penalties up to and including expulsion from the university.

Disability policy: Students enrolled in an institution of higher education are required to self-identify if they would like to request academic support services on the basis of a disability. LeTourneau University encourages a student with a disability to self-identify after admission and to provide required documentation to the Director of Success. Through self-identification and the utilization of appropriate academic services, it is assumed that academic progress must be made. Students needing facility adjustments must notify the Director of Student Success at 903.233.4460.

Our goal at LeTourneau University is to enable students to progress in: Grounding values, Broadening knowledge, Deepening skills, Collaborating service and Discovering purpose.

Grounding Values: This course will encourage students to consider for themselves what the study of Biology has to tell them about the origin and nature of life itself. The subject matter will be approached from a Christian world view.

Broadening knowledge: BIOL 1111 is data rich; any student who passes this course will have broadened their knowledge of nature. My goal is that your joy in life on earth grows along with your knowledge.

Deepening skills: The lab is designed to deepen your skills in laboratory techniques, data collecting, interpreting and recording. Studying successfully will deepen your skills in preparing for rigorous tests necessary for so many of the science related professions.

Collaborating service: The content of this course does not lend itself to public service projects though the collaborative assignments should encourage the skills needed to work with a team, and the course itself is a building block in many public service and environmentally beneficial careers.

Discovering purpose: For those of you considering careers related to biology, zoology or health science, this course should increase your understanding of the joys and challenges of those disciplines.