## BIOL 310: History of Life

### Summer 2019

**Class time:**

**Name of Faculty:** Bran Cromer, Augusta State University

**Contact details:** rcromer@augusta.edu

### Course Description

BIOL 310 – History of Life (3 credits): A study of major events in the history of life from the origin of life some four billion years ago to the extinction and speciation episodes that have resulted in the variety of organisms that occupy the planet in more recent geologic time.

Field trips include: the London Natural History Museum, Cambridge Museum of Zoology, Charles Darwin’s London House, and fossil finding at Hunstanton Beach.

### Credit Hour Policy Statement

This class meets the federal credit hour policy of:

- This class meets the federal credit hour policy of 1 hour of class with an expected 2 hours of additional student work outside of class each week for approximately 15 weeks for each hour of credit, or a total of 45-75 total hours for each credit.

### General Education Objective

This course meets the General Education requirements for:

- None

### Learning Objectives

Listed below are the Learning Objectives for the course:

Students will:

1. Develop a deep understanding of Earth’s geologic time scale
2. Describe the structure and composition early biochemical conditions on Earth
3. Describe the earliest life forms on Earth
4. Explain the major steps in the evolution of bacteria, protists, fungi, plants and animals
5. Apply their knowledge of life history to current biological/ecological issues
6. Be able to communicate (in writing and orally) how organisms have evolved in response to environmental changes.

### Assessment and Grading Criteria

Assessments will be based on three examinations, participation/group discussion, oral presentations (topic will be relevant to evolutionary history of Earth), and a required daily journal of activities and experiences.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations</td>
<td>300 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation/group discussion</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>450 pts</strong></td>
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- 405-450 = A
- 360-404 = B
- 315-359 = C
- 270-314 = D
- < 270 = F