

MESABI RANGE COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE – VIRGINIA/EVELETH

**Course Outline**

Course Title: Contemporary Issues in Biology  
Semester Course Prefix and Number: BIOL 1536  
Old Quarter Course Prefix and Number: BIOL 109

Submitted By: K. Giermann  
Approval Date:  
Revision Date: Feb. 2002

Number of Credits: 4      Number of Lecture Credits: 3  
Semester(s) Offered:      Number of Lab Credits: 1      Number of Lab Hours: 2  
Negotiated Class Size:      Number of Studio/Demonstration/Internship Credits:

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**Course Purpose Code:**

- 0 – Developmental Courses
- 1 – Non-transferable, General Education
- 2 – Technical course related to career programs
- 3 – College course which has the primary goal of applying certain concepts (e.g. vocal ensemble)
- 4 – Other college course not considered a part of general education (MNTC) e.g. computer science, health, physical education
- 5 – Course which is intended to fulfill the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MNTC) requirements.
- 9 – Continuing Education/Customized Training specialized credit course (not occurring in 0-5)

**Catalog Description:**

This course will focus on current issues in biology. Basic biology concepts and lab demonstrations will be applied to current topics.

**Prerequisites and/or recommended entry skills/knowledge:**

Course Prerequisite(s): None  
Reading Prerequisite: College Level Reading  
Composition Prerequisite: None  
Mathematics Prerequisite: Placement by CPT score or a grade of C or better in MATH 0091 (or previous course MATH 090)

**Career Programs and Transfer Majors Accessing this Course:**

N/A

**Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal(s) partially met by this course if applicable:** Notes: No more than two goals may be met by any one course. (Curriculum Committee review and the Chief Academic Officer's approval are required).

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| 0. <input type="checkbox"/> None   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> The Humanities and Fine Arts           |
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Communications                                 | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Human Diversity                        |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Critical Thinking                              | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Global Perspectives                    |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Sciences                    | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Ethical and Civic Responsibility       |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematical/Logical Reasoning                 | 10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> People and the Environment |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences |  |

**Learning outcomes, including any relevant competencies listed in the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum:**

The student will:

- Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems
- Propose and assess alternate solutions to environmental problems
- Demonstrate understanding of scientific theories
- Evaluate societal issues from a natural science perspective
- Formulate and test hypotheses

**Student assessment methods:**

- Exams
- Discussions
- Projects
- Article summaries

**Use of instructional technology** (includes software, interactive video and other instructional technologies):

**Outline of the major course content:**

Content will change with current issues. Some examples may include overpopulation, pollution, disease, antibiotic resistance, water and food contamination, cardiovascular health, and genetic engineering.

**Additional special information** (special fees, directives on hazardous materials, etc.)

**Transfer Information:** (Please list colleges/majors that accept this course in transfer.)

**Approvals:**

Body	Representative Signatures	Date
Curriculum Committee		
Faculty Association		
Meet and Confer		
Chief Academic Officer		

Distribution: Original – Administrative Office, Library, Learning Center, Records, Student Services, Curriculum Committee Chair