

**Biology 3408L – Fall 2025**  
**Invertebrate Zoology Laboratory**  
**Alpine: WSB 109 M 1:30 – 3:15pm**  
**Midland and International: Virtual**  
**Syllabus**

**Lab Instructor:** Dr. Chris M. Ritzi – WSB 217

Phone: 837- 8420

Email: [critzi@sulross.edu](mailto:critzi@sulross.edu)

Office hours: M 3:30-5:00 PM

T R 3:30 – 4:30 PM

W 2:00 – 5:00 PM

or by appt.

**Lab Website:** <http://shsu.blackboard.edu/> & <http://faculty.sulross.edu/critzi/>

**Text:** Invertebrates. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Brusca, R. C., W. Moore, and S. M. Shuster

**Grading:** Your grade contributes up to 200 points toward your lecture grade. Points in labs can be gained through 3 lab practical exams (50 pts each) and 7 quizzes offered throughout the semester (5 pts each - 30 pts total, after dropping the lowest quiz). The remaining points will be allotted based on participation. Graduate students taking the course for graduate credit will be required to prepare a presentation/demonstration for their special graduate assignment. Addition non-credit quizzes may be offered.

**Exams:** There will be a total of 3 lab practicals, which will focus heavily on visual identification. Quizzes will be administered in weekly over the previous week's material, being either text, picture, or practical based. If you miss an exam or quiz and have a legitimate excuse, contact me within 24 hours. Quizzes can be made-up up to a week of the original date. If you do not contact me within 24 hours, you will receive a zero on that exam or quiz.

**Attendance:** Students missing 20% of labs (3 labs) shall be dropped from the lab per the SRSU catalog. Any student dropped for excessive absences will receive an F for the course grade. Please notify your instructor BEFORE missing class for authorized activities, death in the family, or illness. Lab practicals will typically not be re-offered, with the exception of a make-up final for excused absences only.

**Laboratory courtesy:** The general rules of classroom etiquette are below.

- 1) Please do not talk to others in class while the instructor is talking. If you have a question, ASK THE INSTRUCTOR! That's what we're here for.
- 2) No food, drink or tobacco in lab. We will be handling things you might not want to get in your mouth.
- 3) Please turn cell phones and pagers to silent while in class. They are disruptive to the entire class, and detract from learning.

**Students with disabilities will be provided reasonable accommodations. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility at 837-8203, FH 112.**

| <b>TENTATIVE LABORATORY OUTLINE</b> |                                         |                |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>DATE</b>                         | <b>LECTURE TOPIC</b>                    | <b>CHAPTER</b> |
| Aug 25                              | No Laboratory - Set up                  |                |
| Sept 1                              | No Laboratory - Labor Day               |                |
| Sept 8                              | Introduction and Porifera               | 6              |
| Sept 15                             | Cnidera and Ctenophora                  | 8 and 9        |
| Sept 22                             | Platyhelminthes and Nematoda            | 10 and 12      |
| Sept 29                             | Lab Practical I                         |                |
| Oct 6                               | Mollusca (Gastropoda & Bivalvia)        | 21 part        |
| Oct 13                              | Mollusca (Polyplacophora & Cephalopoda) | 21 part        |
| Oct 20                              | Annelida, Onychophora & Others          | 13, 15         |
| Oct 27                              | Lab Practical II                        |                |
| Nov 3                               | Chelicerata, Insecta & Myriapoda        | 17, 18, 19     |
| Nov 10                              | Crustacea                               | 16             |
| Nov 17                              | Echinodermata                           | 22             |
| Nov 24                              | Chordata                                | 23             |
| Dec 1                               | Lab Practical III                       |                |

Note – This outline is subject to change for reasons of course interest, time constraint, or instructor whim. The exams will be administered on the dates indicated, so that course flow can be maintained. Material covered in Laboratory is designed to loosely follow that of lecture, although some differences may exist.

Lab Expectations – This is an Invertebrate Zoology Laboratory, and therefore you will be expected to do a variety of biological activities over the course of the term. Things you will be expected to do include, but are not limited to, DISSECTION, handling of potential INFECTIOUS material, and care and handling of LIVING organisms. These activities are a required part of the lab, with everyone expected to take part.