



## Welcome to the Science of Living Organisms (BIO 11)

*“When you have seen one ant, one bird, one tree,  
you have not seen them all. —E.O. Wilson*

During this semester, we will explore the diversity of life, from the smallest biological molecule to the biosphere. I am excited to work with you as you learn about the structure, function, evolution, and ecology of organisms.

I hope this letter finds you well. I am super excited to be working with you this upcoming Fall semester at CCSF! Keep reading for more information about the course and how to contact me!

### Course Structure

This is a full semester, **online course with mandatory face-to-face laboratory meetings every week.** **We will be meeting in-person for our first lab on Wednesday, September 3 from 1:10-4:00pm on the Ocean Campus in the new STEAM Building in room 206.** Check the CCSF Schedule of Classes for your meeting day, time, and location. Our course will follow a module schedule that runs Monday through Monday. Weekly assignments will be due throughout the week (on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays). Be sure to look at the schedule at the bottom of our CANVAS home page to understand how this flexible, modular course will work. While this course set-up allows for flexibility in accessing the material, note that **this is NOT a self-paced course and weekly participation in lecture and lab is required.**

How much time will this course take?

- Hours in *online “virtual” lecture/discussions/assignments*: 3 hours/week
- Hours for *online assignments*: 1-2 hours/week
- Hours in the *laboratory*: 3 hours/week
- Hours for *ACTIVE study*: 4-9 hours/week
- How to succeed: [Video of Advice for Success](#) or [Handout Advice for Success](#)

I will have open office hours to answer questions regarding lecture content and to help with laboratory investigations (e.g. you can find the link to my office hours via the CANVAS Calendar). Please read the [Bio 11 course syllabus](#) for more details about the course, including grading policies and general requirements for your success. You should also check out the [BIO 11 Class Schedule](#).

### Are you ready for an online course?

Success in an online course requires excellent time-management and self-discipline. You should expect to spend the same amount of time (in and outside of the classroom) as you would in the regular, face-to-face course, at least 9 hours per week on the lecture part of the class and 6 hours for the laboratory section. Your time commitment will vary based on your experience with web technologies and level of personal commitment. Please check out [Succeeding in Online Classes](#) to help you navigate the online learning environment and to evaluate if online learning is for you. And if you are new to Canvas, you may also want to check out [Learning with Canvas](#).

### ***You have my support!***

If this is the class for you, please check out the various resources in BIO 11 to get you started and to maintain your success in this online course.

**The Canvas course will be available on Friday, August 29, 2025.** Be sure you can login at <https://ccsf.instructure.com> prior to the start of class! Your username should be your CCSF ID and your Canvas password should be your RAM ID password. Contact the CCSF Help Desk if you need help with this webform at <https://www.ccsf.edu/help-desk>. The course “home” page has links to important information, be sure to explore it!

CCSF’s [Online Learning Resource Page](#) is a wonderful resource to help with all the important information needed regarding your computer compatibility, login help, and/or Canvas support. Or contact [Canvas 24/7 Chat Support System](#).

If you are new to Canvas, this [Canvas video](#) will help provide a general overview of how Canvas works. For more detailed information about the specific features of Canvas, you can check out the [Canvas video guide list](#).

If you need special accommodations for this course, we are happy to help! Please visit the [Disability Services and Programs for Students \(DSPS\)](#) website or call (415) 452-5481 for more information.

### ***Welcome to this class!***

I hope this information has been helpful in orientating you. Be sure to read everything thoroughly and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me now (Dr. Bibit Traut: [bibit.traut@mail.ccsf.edu](mailto:bibit.traut@mail.ccsf.edu), although I will not be checking my email until after 8/28) or through the Canvas inbox once you’ve logged into the course. I am really looking forward to seeing you online this fall!

Cheers,  
Dr. Bibit Traut