

To students who are taking BIO 120: Understanding the Living World in Spring 2011

First, I would like to welcome all of you to BIO 120! The faculty in the Department of Biological Sciences are looking forward to seeing you in class this spring and we are excited at the opportunity to share our knowledge and passion about biology with you. We want all of you to be successful in our classes. One of the essential elements for success in this class is purchasing and reading the textbook.

We have recently chosen a new textbook and I wanted to let you know about the book and some different purchase options that are available. We know that everyone is watching their money carefully and we have worked out some new options to lower the price for the required textbook. I think that you will find this textbook to be very readable, with excellent explanations and graphics, and you can obtain it at a reasonable price.

In addition to the textbook you will also need to purchase a laboratory workbook (Experiences in Biology by G. A. Dahlem & L. A. Ebersole), available only in the two campus bookstores (on or near campus) at a price around \$15. You should have the laboratory workbook before your first lab of the semester.

The required textbook for BIO 120 is:

Essentials of the Living World, Third Edition by George B. Johnson. McGraw Hill Publ. (frog & lily pads on cover)

Purchase Options (please read all options carefully – prices come from quotes given in Fall 2010):

1: Purchase book directly from the publisher. With the book you will also get free access to an e-book version of the text that you can access from your laptop or home computer (a fast connection to the internet may be required for use of the e-book). Your price = \$86. You can purchase the book (or just take a closer look at this option) by following this link:

http://www.mhprofessional.com/mhhe_product.php?isbn=0077468252&cat=108

2: If you are on a tight budget, or prefer to read on-line, you may want to consider purchasing access to a simple e-book version of this textbook from CourseSmart. This is for e-book only and access is limited to 180 days (1/2 year). You will need to access the book from a computer with a fast connection. Price for the e-book only = \$43. You can purchase this option from CourseSmart by following this link:

http://www.coursesmart.com/givecoursesmartatry?xmlid=0077236912&_instructor=1279129

3: Purchase a new book from one of the two bookstores associated with NKU. With the new book you will also get free access to an e-book version of the text that you can access from your laptop or home computer (a fast connection to the internet may be required for use of the e-book). You may prefer to purchase from the bookstore for convenience or **you may be required to do this if you are on financial aid** and are planning to use financial aid for book purchases. If you are on financial aid, please check with the providers and/or the Financial Aid office to see what requirements you have regarding purchase of books for classes. I do not have a final price on this option, but expect to pay more if you purchase from one of the bookstores.

4. Rent a textbook for the semester. This is a new option that will be offered by the two bookstores associated with NKU. You are welcome to do this, but please make sure that you get the correct title, author and make sure that you are purchasing the **THIRD EDITION**. You may or may not get free access to an e-book version if you use this option. I do not know what the final price of this option will be, but I think it will be less than \$60.

5: Purchase a new book from an on-line resource (such as through Amazon.com). You are welcome to do this, but please make sure that you get the correct title, author and make sure that you are purchasing the **THIRD EDITION**. You may or may not get free access to an e-book version if you use this option. Price is variable, depending on the source you use for purchasing the book. (Price = \$91.04 from Amazon the last time I checked).

6: Purchase a used book from the bookstore or from an on-line resource. You are welcome to do this, but please make sure that you get the correct title, author and make sure that you are purchasing the **THIRD EDITION**. You will NOT get free access to an e-book version if you use this option. Price is variable, depending on the source you use for purchasing the used book. Because this is a brand new edition of this textbook, I expect that there will be a limited number of used books available for this title.

I hope that you will find this information useful. Have a wonderful holiday and we look forward to seeing you in class this Spring.

Best wishes,

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