

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Testing Services
and
The Department of Biological Sciences

BIOS 103-104 PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION

ELIGIBILITY: Students who are especially well prepared in biology may attempt this exam. This proficiency exam may not be taken for credit by majors in biological sciences or students with previous credit in BIOS 103, General Biology, or BIOS 104, General Biology, or their equivalents.

NOTE: Students may not earn proficiency credit for a course for which they have received credit; nor may they receive proficiency credit for courses which substantially overlap or are prerequisite to any in which they are enrolled or for which they have received credit. Normally, a student may attempt to gain proficiency credit for a particular course only once.

PROFICIENCY EXAM: The exam consists of 120 items. Eighty minutes of testing time are allowed.

EXAM RESULTS: Results will be available immediately following completion of the examination.

Scores on the BIOS 103-104 Proficiency Exam are to be interpreted as follows:

Score of: 90 or above	Four hours of credit will be granted for Biology 104, General Biology.
78 through 89	Three hours of credit will be granted for Biology 103, General Biology.
77 or below	No credit will be granted.

AREAS OF CONTENT: The following topics will be covered:

Basic chemistry, chemical components of living systems, the origin of life, cell structure, nutrition, respiration, photosynthesis, the genetic code and syntheses, control of life systems (molecular, cellular, and organismal levels), animal behavior, heredity (including human genetic disorders), reproduction (including mitosis and meiosis and birth control), evolution, ecological principles, and characteristics of major groups of living organisms.

STUDY MATERIALS: Most textbooks designed for an introductory college biology course include the information covered by the exam. Questions regarding exam content and study materials should be directed to Dr. Kenneth Gasser, Montgomery Hall 356. Phone (815) 753-7815.

REGISTRATION: This exam must be scheduled in advance with Testing Services, Adams Hall 128. Phone (815) 753-1203; E-mail: testing@niu.edu