Course Overview: Biology is a natural science discipline concerned with the study of life and living organisms, including their structure, function, growth, origin, evolution, distribution, and taxonomy. The fundamental axioms of modern biology are the five unifying principles. They are cells are the basic unit of life, genes are the basic unit of heredity, new species and inherited traits are the product of evolution, an organism regulates its internal environment to maintain a stable and constant condition and living organisms consume and transform energy (Avila, 1995).

Lecture Tips

Teaching Strategy: The following recommendations can help make the lecture approach more effective. Obviously, teaching strategies should be carefully matched to the objectives of a particular lesson.

1. **Fit the lecture to the audience.** Focus your topic – remember you cannot cover everything in one lecture.
2. **Prepare an outline** that includes 10–14 major points you want to cover in one lecture.
3. **Organize your points** for clarity. Discuss the learning objective in the beginning of the lecture.
4. **Select appropriate examples** or illustrations to strengthen your objective.
5. **Repeat** points when necessary.
6. **Be aware of your audience** – notice their feedback. Instructional strategies that engage students in the learning process stimulate critical thinking and a greater awareness of other perspectives. Although there are times when lecturing is the most appropriate method for disseminating information, current thinking in college teaching and learning suggests that the use of a variety of instructional strategies can positively enhance student learning (Meyers and Jones, 1993).
7. **Be enthusiastic** – you don’t have to be an entertainer but you should be excited by your topic.
8. **Promote active learning** environments that allow students to talk and listen, read, write, and reflect as they approach course content.
9. **Integrate technology** into a course curriculum when appropriate. Utilize Blackboard for enhancing and extending the learning experience beyond the classroom.

For additional information:
CITT Best Practice Page: [http://citt.hccfl.edu/BestPractice.cfm?i=25](http://citt.hccfl.edu/BestPractice.cfm?i=25)