

Textbook Alternatives Project (TAP)

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BIOL 10: The Living World

Provides students with an understanding of the most fundamental concepts of modern biology including ecology (the interaction between organisms and their environment), human inheritance, the structure and function of living organisms, evolution, strategies for survival and reproduction, and biotechnology.

Brief description of the course and its place in the curriculum

Biology 10 is a General Education course in the area of Science & Math with an average annual enrollment of 400 students. Currently, the course requires students to buy two textbooks that together cost \$182.00 and includes access to Pearson’s interactive web program, *MasteringBiology*.

Summary of course re-design activities

Prof. Poffenroth is replacing the currently required textbooks with two resources: a personally authored text and already published, copyright-cleared works that will be made available to students through AcademicPub, a web-based platform that makes course packs available online and in print. She will also continue to assign the interactive web program, *MasteringBiology*, which has a standalone cost of \$60.00.

The effectiveness of this new approach will be measured using student surveys, and, since student demographics are similar, a comparison of student grades from before and after introducing the new resources. Collective cost savings for students is estimated at over \$48,000 annually.

