

Biology: Understanding Life

By Sandra Alters, Brian Alters



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Designed for a one or two semester non-majors course in introductory biology taught at most two and four-year colleges. This course typically fulfills a general education requirement, and rather than emphasizing mastery of technical topics, it focuses on the understanding of biological ideas and concepts, how they relate to real life, and appreciating the scientific methods and thought processes. Given the authors' work in and dedication to science education, this text's writing style, pedagogy, and integrated support package are all based on classroom-tested teaching strategies and learning theory. The result is a learning program that enhances the effectiveness & efficiency of the teaching and learning experience in the introductory biology course like no other before it.



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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

What's all the buzz about?

In Sandra and Brian Alters' years of teaching biology and training science teachers, they've worked to understand how to create the optimal learning environment and a buzz in the classroom. *Biology: Understanding Life* reflects this experience and dedication to teaching and learning by providing unique, classroom-tested examples, analogies, and explanation—along with pedagogy that points students to the important ideas in biology. Some of these unique, highly-praised pedagogical features include:

- *Analogies* throughout the text help students visualize and understand concepts and processes by comparing them with readily recognizable, real-life examples.
- *Visual Thinking* questions accompany many of the illustrations in this text, asking students to demonstrate understanding and application of what's being depicted in a figure or table.
- *In The News* chapter-opening stories, video clips, and end-of-chapter review questions place biology topics in the context of current events and students' lives.
- *Just Wondering* boxes placed throughout the text showcase and answer questions from students across the country. At the conclusion of each box, students are invited to submit their own questions to the authors by visiting the text's companion website.
- Levels of Understanding Review Materials at the end of each chapter include questions structured according to a three-level system, providing different types of questions designed to encourage students to think about different strategies for studying the chapter's material.

About the Author

Sandra Alters is formerly a tenured professor of biology and education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a professor of biology at Salem State College (MA). After teaching for over 25 years and teaching non-majors introductory biology for 10 years, Sandy left academia to write full time. She has over 20 years experience in science textbook writing in particular and science writing in general. She and her husband Brian are the only Ph.D. science educators currently authoring a non-majors college biology textbook. This book and its related ancillaries reflect their strong focus on science education.

Brian Alters, Sir William Dawson Scholar, holds appointments internationally at McGill University, Montreal, where he recently won the university's highest teaching award, and at Harvard University, Cambridge. Brian is founder and director of the Evolution Education Research Center, a joint involvement between professors of McGill and Harvard universities. He writes primarily about evolution education and teaching.

Users Review

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Herman Deans:

Reading a book tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With examining you can get a lot of information that will give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world could share their idea.

Books can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or their experience. Not only the storyplot that share in the publications. But also they write about advantage about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write for their book. One of them is this Biology: Understanding Life.

Heidi Montgomery:

The actual book Biology: Understanding Life has a lot associated with on it. So when you make sure to read this book you can get a lot of advantage. The book was published by the very famous author. The writer makes some research ahead of write this book. That book very easy to read you can get the point easily after reading this book.

Modesto Delarosa:

Are you kind of hectic person, only have 10 or maybe 15 minute in your moment to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill actually analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book when compared with can satisfy your small amount of time to read it because this time you only find book that need more time to be study. Biology: Understanding Life can be your answer since it can be read by an individual who have those short free time problems.

Diana Johnson:

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