

FIELD ECOLOGY - BIOL 3220

Syllabus – Fall Semester 2016

This course provides an opportunity to work with a diversity of organisms while applying methods used to study ecological patterns and processes in aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Most of the instruction will occur in the field, so **come to lab prepared and PROPERLY DRESSED FOR SPENDING THE AFTERNOON OUTDOORS** (e.g., with boots, coat, hat, gloves, rain gear, etc.). Bring a calculator (if you have one) and a notebook in which to write notes in the field. General Ecology, Biol 2220, is a prerequisite (although it is not intended or ideal to do so, it may be taken concurrently).

Instructor: Ted Evans, BNR 245, 797-2552 (ted.evans@usu.edu)

Teaching Assistant: Samantha Willden, Office BNR 234, e-mail: samwillden@hotmail.com
Phone: (cell) 435-313-2213

Class times and locations: Tuesdays 2:30-5:20 PM Geol 301
Wednesdays 2:30-5:20 PM Geol 301

Weekly Office Hours:

Willden: Tuesday 1-2 PM, BNR 234
(also Thursday 6:00 pm Geol 301)

Evans: Thursday 10-11 AM, BNR 245

Participation: The course consists of weekly 3-hour labs. Attendance and participation are **required**. If you cannot attend your scheduled section, obtain permission from the instructor **in advance** to attend another section the same week.

NOTE: The last day to add this class (includes audits) or drop the class without a notation on your transcript is Monday, 19 September.

Evaluation:

First Midterm	24 %
Second Midterm	28 %
Homework and Lab participation (includes BEING PREPARED for lab!!)	12 %
Final exam	36 %

Final grades for the course are based on these percentages, and are earned as per standard university policy (USU General Catalog: "For work in graded courses, A shall denote exceptional performance, B above average performance, C satisfactory performance, D poor performance, and F failing performance.")

Final exam: The final exam for the course will be held at the regularly scheduled exam period,
Tuesday, 13 December 2016, 3:30 – 5:20 pm, BNR 102

FIELD ECOLOGY LAB SCHEDULE – Fall 2016

Class meets Tuesday, Wednesday

Week	Dates	Exercise (location)	Manual*
1	Aug 30,31	Introduction <i>(read Colinvaux 1993, Wardle et al. 2008) [optional: Grossman 2016]</i>	I a,b
2	Sept 6,7	Leaf Shape (Logan Canyon) <i>(read Lewis 2014, Creel et al. 2007) [optional: Morell 2015]</i>	II
3	Sept 13,14	Population size and dynamics (Guinavah-Malibu) <i>(read Mitton & Grant 1996, Krajick 1998) [optional: Morrell 2007]</i>	III
4	Sept 20,21	Population dispersion (Wood Camp Hollow) <i>(read Anderson & Wallace 2008, Cristol et al. 2008) [optional: Normile 2016]</i>	IV
5	Sept 27,28	Aquatic invertebrates (Spring Hollow)	V
6	Oct 4,5	FIRST MIDTERM EXAM <i>(read, Whitney 1985, van der Heijden 2016) [optional:Coley & Kursar 2014]</i>	
7	Oct 11,12	Plant communities (Wood Camp Hollow) <i>(read Carswell 2014, Zhao et al. 2006) [optional: Appenzeller 2015]</i>	VI
8	Oct 18,19	Plant competition (Spring Hollow) <i>(read Brown 1985; Ypsilantis 2003) [optional: Wells 2008, Lavelle 2015]</i>	VII
9	Oct 25,26	Sagebrush and insect populations (Green Canyon) <i>(read Ehrlich et al. 1988, Wikelski & Tertitski 2016) [optional: Runge et al. 2015 Santoro 2016]</i>	VIII
10	Nov 1,2	Wetland Birds (Cache Valley)	IX
11	Nov 8,9	SECOND MIDTERM EXAM <i>(read Avasthi 2005, Perez et al. 2016) [optional: Stokstad 2010, Mace 2014]</i>	
12	Nov 15,16	Island biogeography	X
13	Nov 22,23	THANKSGIVING (no class) <i>(read Barinaga 1992,Couzin-Frankel 2011) [optional: Grimm 2015,Cohen 2015]</i>	
14	Nov 29,30	Human demography Part I (Logan Cemetery) <i>(read Rousch 1994; Roberts 2011) [optional: Smeeding 2014, Gerland et al. 2014])</i>	XI
15	Dec 6,7	Human demography Part II and Review	XI

* **Manual: The appropriate section of the manual should be read and studied *BEFORE* the lab period.**