

Spring 2021 BIOL-4750-LW1 XL Syllabus

BIOL 4750/6800 Biology Seminar Series

Course Description

Each year, the Department of Biology hosts a seminar series, where speakers present on their research. Speakers include current faculty members in the Department, research staff, graduate students, as well as guests invited from other institutions. Seminars are held each Tuesday at 3:30 pm, and are delivered virtually via Zoom. Upcoming seminar events are published here (see schedule below) and on the department homepage. Through observation, questioning, and reflection, students will learn of the myriad approaches through which scientists tackle life's questions, as well as the paths they took to obtain their current positions.

Instructor

Dr. Diane Alston

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Course Requirements & Evaluation Methods

To receive credit for this course, you must attend 10 seminars during your registered semester.

Biology Seminars can be viewed:

1. Via Zoom Meeting. Each Tuesday, the seminar can be accessed via a Zoom link (posted below). The link will also be posted at the beginning of each week via a Canvas Announcement as a reminder.
2. As recordings, viewed through Canvas. Recorded seminars will be made available as soon as possible, and stored in the Media folder.

Grading Scheme

The Biology Seminar Series is a **Pass / Fail** course. To receive a **Pass** you must attend 10 seminars during your registered semester, as well as complete reflections (Canvas Assignments).

If you do not attend 10 seminars during your registered semester, you can receive an Incomplete and finish your attendance requirement the following semester. However, this option is not ideal. It is strongly recommended that you complete the attendance requirement during your registered semester.

Course Schedule

Date	Speaker	Seminar title
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1/19/21	Dr. Marta Vidal-García University of Calgary	<p>Macroeolution of Australian frogs: Past, present and future</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/88551977355? pwd=SGdtV2xiVGk4dUthcGNtczgvYU5WZz09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/88551977355? pwd=SGdtV2xiVGk4dUthcGNtczgvYU5WZz09)</p>
1/26/21	Dr. Healy Hamilton NatureServe	<p>The Map of Biodiversity Importance: Using machine learning and collaborative science to conserve imperiled species</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/87630937308? pwd=eTFmcVppdXkxdW5VYldnbS81eDhydZ09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/87630937308? pwd=eTFmcVppdXkxdW5VYldnbS81eDhydZ09)</p>
2/2/21	Dr. Barbara Martinez Conservation X Labs	<p>Science policy and career opportunities</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/88238804072? pwd=NXhpMGpXOWtHeHY3WnpIWTZIUSStZQT09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/88238804072? pwd=NXhpMGpXOWtHeHY3WnpIWTZIUSStZQT09)</p>
2/9/21	Dr. Julian Resasco University of Colorado Boulder	<p>Biodiversity under environmental change in large-scale and long-term studies</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85046391849? pwd=MDJ5eWJ0ME1qUDQxK01KS2JUbwWrdz09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85046391849? pwd=MDJ5eWJ0ME1qUDQxK01KS2JUbwWrdz09)</p>
2/16/21	Dr. Charles Knapp Shedd Aquarium	<p>Beyond the walls: Applied research at public zoos and aquariums</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81911572918? pwd=S1BmdTVFZiszVEUyRS9yWW5iWFd2dz09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81911572918? pwd=S1BmdTVFZiszVEUyRS9yWW5iWFd2dz09)</p>
3/2/21	Dr. Benjamin Bond-Lamberty Pacific Northwest National Laboratory	<p>Tree mortality and tipping points in the forest carbon cycle</p> <p>https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/87071577646? pwd=UEJMZ3hHSWd6d1hkVjBnbXl1Ymlydz09 (https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/87071577646? pwd=UEJMZ3hHSWd6d1hkVjBnbXl1Ymlydz09)</p>

- Predicting pesticide fate with the Pesticide Dissipation from Agricultural Land (PeDAL) model
- 3/9/21 **Dr. Kimberly Hageman**
Utah State University
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/83618306327?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/83618306327?pwd=dTYxV3NkaTZyYjZpbGhqK1krbU1WZz09)
pwd=dTYxV3NkaTZyYjZpbGhqK1krbU1WZz09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/83618306327?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/83618306327?pwd=dTYxV3NkaTZyYjZpbGhqK1krbU1WZz09)
pwd=dTYxV3NkaTZyYjZpbGhqK1krbU1WZz09)
- Using models to learn things and solve problems:
Tales from academic and non-academic settings
- 3/16/21 **Dr. Andrew Tredennick**
Western EcoSystems Tech
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/86880343540?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/86880343540?pwd=RHBwNW5zdmJDRSsrczlvYTEwY3ZHUT09)
pwd=RHBwNW5zdmJDRSsrczlvYTEwY3ZHUT09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/86880343540?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/86880343540?pwd=RHBwNW5zdmJDRSsrczlvYTEwY3ZHUT09)
pwd=RHBwNW5zdmJDRSsrczlvYTEwY3ZHUT09)
- Quantifying structure and variation in complex
phylogenetic data
- 3/23/21 **Dr. Genevieve Mount**
Utah State University
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81938144074?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81938144074?pwd=NVRwcEpSOFpoQW5JQnduNW41ZIRpZz09)
pwd=NVRwcEpSOFpoQW5JQnduNW41ZIRpZz09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81938144074?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81938144074?pwd=NVRwcEpSOFpoQW5JQnduNW41ZIRpZz09)
pwd=NVRwcEpSOFpoQW5JQnduNW41ZIRpZz09)
- Drought stress disrupts the plant-pollinator
relationship in buckwheat, a short season and cover
crop
- 3/30/21 **Dr. Caitlin Rering**
USDA-ARS
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85969379696?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85969379696?pwd=RENxMnhiWU5Ecnd6N2xsVkhWUStRZz09)
pwd=RENxMnhiWU5Ecnd6N2xsVkhWUStRZz09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85969379696?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/85969379696?pwd=RENxMnhiWU5Ecnd6N2xsVkhWUStRZz09)
pwd=RENxMnhiWU5Ecnd6N2xsVkhWUStRZz09)
- Mutualism: What have we learned, and where do we
go from here?
- 4/6/21 **Dr. Judith Bronstein**
University of Arizona
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82422481525?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82422481525?pwd=S2ZLRlhYYWFpamFaU2drR0pPTE9Kdz09)
pwd=S2ZLRlhYYWFpamFaU2drR0pPTE9Kdz09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82422481525?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82422481525?pwd=S2ZLRlhYYWFpamFaU2drR0pPTE9Kdz09)
pwd=S2ZLRlhYYWFpamFaU2drR0pPTE9Kdz09)
- Tradeoffs and the maintenance of genetic diversity in
plant-pathogen interactions
- 4/13/21 **Dr. Talia Karasov**
University of Utah
[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81874888032?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81874888032?pwd=NXYFaVVc0R6Y2t6SEhOS0pqRDcxQT09)
pwd=NXYFaVVc0R6Y2t6SEhOS0pqRDcxQT09
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81874888032?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/81874888032?pwd=NXYFaVVc0R6Y2t6SEhOS0pqRDcxQT09)
pwd=NXYFaVVc0R6Y2t6SEhOS0pqRDcxQT09)

4/27/21
Dr. Rebecca Wilcox
University of Wyoming

Spatiotemporal variation in animal behavior, species interactions, and their impacts on seed dispersal potential in a novel ecosystem

[https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09)
[pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09)
([https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09)
[pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09](https://usu-edu.zoom.us/j/82633157913?pwd=MkZBeXp5NUFVck1Demd6UDlvSDR5dz09))

Attendance Policy

You must submit a reflection (Canvas assignment) to receive credit for each seminar you attend. Fill out the requested information for each assignment honestly and completely. There are 10 total Canvas assignments, each due by Friday of the week of the seminar at 5 PM.

Classroom Civility

Utah State University supports the principle of freedom of expression for both faculty and students. The University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Read Student Code Article V Section V-3 (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article5>) for more information.

University Policies & Procedures

COVID-19 Classroom Protocols

In order to continue to provide a high standard of instruction at USU, and to limit the spread of COVID-19 during the pandemic, students are asked to follow certain classroom protocols. These protocols are in place not only for your safety but also the safety of the rest of the campus community. You will be asked to clean your desk area at the start of each class, sit in designated seats, wear face coverings, and follow dismissal instructions. There may be individual medical circumstances that prevent some students from using face coverings. These circumstances will be rare, but if they do exist, we ask that everyone be respectful. It is imperative that we each do our part so that on-campus instruction can continue.

Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy #403 (<http://www.usu.edu/hr/files/uploads/Policies/403.pdf>) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.

Academic Integrity – "The Honor System"

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

Academic Dishonesty

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University's Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating:** using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity. Unauthorized assistance includes:
 - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done "individually;"
 - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
 - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
 - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
 - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
 - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.
- **Falsification:** altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
- **Plagiarism:** representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

For additional information go to: ARTICLE VI. University Regulations Regarding Academic Integrity (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6>)

Sexual Harassment/Title IX

Utah State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free from acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination and to fostering respect and dignity for all members of the USU community. Title IX and USU Policy 339 (<http://www.usu.edu/policies/339>) address sexual harassment in the workplace and academic setting.

The university responds promptly upon learning of any form of possible discrimination or sexual misconduct. Any individual may contact USU's Office of Equity (<https://equity.usu.edu/>) for available options and resources or clarification. The university has established a complaint procedure to handle all types of discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment (USU Policy 305 (<http://www.usu.edu/policies/305/>)), and has designated the Office of Equity Director/Title IX Coordinator as the official responsible for receiving and investigating complaints of sexual harassment.

Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Students with Disabilities

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (<http://www.usu.edu/drc/>) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, (435) 797-2444, drc@usu.edu (<mailto:drc@usu.edu>)). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

Students who are at a higher risk for complications from COVID-19 or who contract COVID-19 may also be eligible for accommodations.

Diversity Statement

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact:

- Division of Student Affairs: <https://studentaffairs.usu.edu> (<https://studentaffairs.usu.edu/>), (435) 797-1712, studentservices@usu.edu (<mailto:studentservices@usu.edu>), TSC 220
- Student Legal Services: <https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services> (<https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services>), (435) 797-2912, TSC 326,
- Access and Diversity: <http://accesscenter.usu.edu> (<http://accesscenter.usu.edu/>), (435) 797-1728, access@usu.edu (<mailto:access@usu.edu>); TSC 315
- Multicultural Programs: <http://accesscenter.usu.edu/multiculture> (<http://accesscenter.usu.edu/multiculture>), (435) 797-1728, TSC 315
- LGBTQA Programs: <http://accesscenter.usu.edu/lgbtqa> (<http://accesscenter.usu.edu/lgbtqa/>), (435) 797-1728, TSC 3145
- Provost's Office Diversity Resources: <https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity> (<https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity/>), (435) 797-8176

You can learn about your student rights by visiting:

The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State

University: <https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode> (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/>)

Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: Article VII (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article7>).

Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:

- Student Conduct (<http://www.usu.edu/studentconduct>)
- Student Code (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/>)
- Academic Integrity (<https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6>)
- USU Selected Academic Policies and Procedures (<http://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty-life/syllabus.cfm>)
- USU Academic Policies and Procedures (<http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=546>)
- Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility Policy (<http://www.usu.edu/hr/files/uploads/Policies/403.pdf>)

Emergency Procedures

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building by the sound of the fire/emergency alarm system or by a building representative. In the event of a disaster that may interfere with either notification, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., in an earthquake when shaking ceases or immediately when a fire is discovered). Turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs.

Mental Health

Mental health is critically important for the success of USU students. As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. Utah State University provides free services for students to assist them with addressing these and other concerns. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) (<https://counseling.usu.edu>).

Students are also encouraged to download the "SafeUT App" (<https://healthcare.utah.edu/uni/programs/safe-ut-smartphone-app>) to their smartphones. The SafeUT application is a 24/7 statewide crisis text and tip service that provides real-time crisis intervention to students through texting and a confidential tip program that can help anyone with emotional crises, bullying, relationship problems, mental health, or suicide related issues.