

BIOLOGY 110: ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY **Section 3429 Fall 2007**

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Class Meets: Lecture and Lab Saturdays 9-11:50am, 12:30-3pm (order will vary)
Room: 3112

- 1) **Text Required:** *Biology 110 Lab and Field Manual*
 - 2) **Required:** *Basic Concepts in Biology*. Starr (Or any recent General Biology Text Book)
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Course Description:

Environmental Biology is basically an Ecology course. We will discuss Biological principles with an emphasis on local as well as global Ecology, Conservation, Evolution, Genetics, and the Principles of Inheritance. We will refer to examples found in California and specifically, San Diego County as well as other locations as a means of providing evidence for these principles. Many labs will be experimental but we will also go on several field trips to local habitats and Museums.

Classroom Policies:

As your teacher, my goal is to help you succeed in this class by guiding your learning. It is up to you to engage the information by reading, asking questions and participating in class and lab activities. I strongly encourage you to come see me for any questions or just to become acquainted. Biology is relevant and interesting, look for applications for what you are learning in your daily lives. As students you are expected to conduct yourself in an appropriate manner which including maintaining academic integrity, behaving respectfully towards your classmates and me, etc. Please be sure to turn off all cell phones and pagers before class and **DO NOT** bring food or drinks into the classroom. As this is a lab/field course please come to class dressed for outdoor work (comfortable clothing and sneakers, i.e. closed-toe shoes). **Also it is your responsibility to check the class website on Blackboard before each class for information regarding class, exams, etc.**

Evaluation:

You will be evaluated through a series of exams, a poster project (instructions and due dates will available in the 2nd week of class), quizzes, in class activities and your performance on lab activities. Exams will cover all material since the previous exam up to material designated by the instructor. I will notify you at least one week in advance of the exam date. The midterms will occur during the following months:

DATE	MIDTERM EXAMS
September/October	HOURLY EXAM #1
October/November	HOURLY EXAM #2
December (on our Final Exam date)	HOURLY EXAM #3

Please review page 156 in the **SPRING** Class Schedule for final exam dates and times for your all of your classes.

HOURLY EXAMS:

Hour Exams will be taken from materials presented in lectures, labs, field trips, and quizzes and from assigned readings. **DO NOT MISS HOURLY EXAMS! YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO MAKE-UP ONE-HOUR EXAMS. If you are late for the Exam you will be allowed to take the test but will be expected to finish within 1 hour of when the rest of the class began the exam.**

LECTURE POP QUIZZES:

There will be unannounced (pop) quizzes in lecture...so keep-up with the material. I will drop the lowest quiz score. Many quiz questions will be used on the midterm exams.

Missed **lecture** Quizzes cannot be made up.

If you are late for the Pop Quiz you will not be allowed to take the quiz.

LAB QUIZZES:

Lab quizzes will be given prior to THE BEGINNING OF THE LAB EXERCISE. Assume that there will be a quiz at the beginning of every lab, starting with week 2. Lab quizzes will be based on the material from the previous lab and the current lab exercise. Questions will cover specific results from the previous lab and introductory material from the current lab. Questions from the current lab are to encourage you to be prepared BEFORE you come to lab. Missed lab Quizzes cannot be made up. Missed quizzes will be scored as a zero (0). Approximately ten (10) quizzes will be given; the lowest quiz score will be dropped. Under no circumstances will make-up lab quizzes be given.

If you are late for the lab you will not be allowed to take the quiz.

FIELD TRIPS: An essential component of learning Environmental Biology is going out into the field to see first-hand many of the physical processes and habitats we discuss in class. We will take several field trips to different habitats in San Diego County.

If you are unable to go on the field trips, you will not be able to complete the assignments necessary to successfully pass this course.

**Two (2) Half-day weekend field trip with the class, as well as;
One (1) Field trip with the class on Saturday late afternoon (4p.m.), and;
Two (2) museums on your own time, possible occurring during lab time.
(details in the lab schedule at the end of the syllabus)**

YOU MUST PASS THE LAB AND LECTURE IN ORDER TO PASS THIS 4 UNIT COURSE

BIO 110 TOPIC LIST and READINGS GUIDE.

You will mostly rely on Basic *Concepts in Biology*, for your readings. **However, any recent general biology text book will be fine.**

The textbooks are on reserve at the limited loan desk in the library. If you cannot afford to buy a book, you can checkout the text at the reference desk for up to four hours at a time.

Please note: This is a general guide to the topics to be discussed in class as well as the order of discussions. There are no dates listed as we will go at whatever pace the class and I set, *e.g.* sometimes there is more or less interest in a particular subject, etc. You are expected to read all of the assigned material unless otherwise noted. Optional reading (TBA) is highly recommended.

All REQUIRED reading assignments are from *Basic Concepts in Biology*, unless otherwise noted: (see* below).
Read the whole chapter unless otherwise noted.

TOPIC	CHAPTER READINGS
Introduction, Characteristics of life	Ch.1, Ch.16 (251)
General Inorganic Chemistry, Water,	Ch.2
General Organic Chemistry, Nutrition	Ch.3
The Cell, Membranes, Diffusion, Osmosis	Ch.3, 4, 5
Energy	Ch. 5, 6
Trophic levels, Ecosystems, Chemical cycling	Ch.41
Hormones, Pesticides	Ch.11 (174-5), Ch.38 (641-9)
Biosphere, Biomes, and Climate	Ch.42
California Vegetation	TBA
Reproduction	Ch.9 (138-43, 146-50), Ch.34
Patterns of Inheritance	Ch. 8, 9, 10
Evolution and Natural Selection	Ch. 16,17

Tutoring: Students are referred to enroll in the following supervised tutoring courses if the service indicated will assist them in achieving or reinforcing the learning objectives of this course:

- *IDS 198, Supervised Tutoring to receive Tutoring in general computer applications in the Tech Mall;
- *English 198W, Supervised Tutoring for assistance in the English Writing Center (Room 70-119); and/or
- *IDS 198T, Supervised Tutoring to receive one-on-one tutoring in academic subjects in the Tutoring Center (Room 70-229, 644-7387).

To add any of these courses, students may obtain Add Codes at the Information/Registration Desk in the Tech Mall.

All Supervised Tutoring courses are non-credit/non-fee. However, when a student registers for a supervised tutoring course, and has no other classes, the student will be charged the usual health fee.

LEGAL STUFF:

Quiz and Test-Taking Policies:

1. Use of GRADE MASTER FORMS.

- a. Quizzes require **GRADE MASTER Form 23040** (you need **3-5**, start with 3 and I will let you know as the course progresses)
- b. Exams **GRADE MASTER Form 25420** (you need **3**)
- c. No substitutions accepted

2. ERASURES.

Any incompletely erased answer may be interpreted by the GRADE MASTER FORMS machine as an intended answer. Students who suspect that an erased answer might be misread by the GRADE MASTER FORMS machine must take the following steps:

- a. Upon submission of the GRADE MASTER FORMS to the instructor, have the instructor initial any questions that have incompletely erased answers.
- b. When the graded exam is returned the student should examine marked answers to ensure that they are graded correctly. The instructor can help you with this examination.
- c. **ONLY THREE INCOMPLETELY ERASED ANSWERS CAN BE MARKED PER QUIZ OR EXAM.** If there are more than 3, the student will be required to recopy the entire GRADE MASTER. **BOTH GRADE MASTER FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE INSTRUCTOR.**
- d. Questions incorrectly graded due to incomplete erasures that **ARE NOT MARKED BY THE INSTRUCTOR** will not be corrected and no credit will be earned.

3. All GRADE MASTER and quiz/exam papers must show the student's name, class section, quiz or exam number, date, and version. Quizzes or exams missing this information **WILL NOT** be graded.

4. Students arriving late to class on the day of a Quiz or Exam will not be given additional time to complete their Quiz/Exam. If you arrive after I have collected the exams, you will miss-out.

5. OTHER PARTICULARS:

Students are solely responsible for retaining all graded GRADE MASTERS, exams, and other assignments returned by the instructor. In the event of grading discrepancies (see below) the actual GRADE MASTER, exam, or other assignment must be submitted for regrading. **Grading disputes or discrepancies must be addressed within two weeks of receiving the exam.**

Examples where graded assignments might be resubmitted:

- a. A grading error resulting from a mis-marked key.
- b. A grade adjustment due to a successful student challenge of a quiz/exam question.
- c. A computer failure i.e. computer loses your grade.
- d. Instructor has no record of assignment. *E.g.* it was lost

6. ATTENDANCE AND WITHDRAWAL:

Attendance to all Lectures and Labs is mandatory. You are expected to attend every day, so don't schedule anything else in your life during class time. To be successful in school you need to get in the habit of attending EVERY CLASS. STUDENTS MISSING MORE THAN TWO (2) CLASSES ARE SUBJECT TO BEING DROPPED BY THE INSTRUCTOR REGARDLESS OF THEIR GRADE STATUS. PLEASE READ THE COLLEGE CATALOG IN REGARDS TO THE WITHDRAWAL POLICY.

Students who stop attending class should not assume that the instructor would withdraw them. Students who do not officially withdraw from the course may receive the grade earned most likely an 'F'.

Tardy: Please arrive to class on time. If you are tardy more than once, each additional tardy will be counted as an absence (three absences and you are dropped). There are **NO MAKEUPS** of missed exams, assignments, etc.! **Do not be tardy to class.**

7. PLEASE NOTE: You may want to exchange phone numbers with other group members. If someone gives you a phone number it is to be used for class related purposes only unless you have PRIOR permission from the student to phone for other personal reasons. Abuse of this policy will result in your immediate expulsion from the class with no possibility of reinstatement.

8. Plagiarism and Cheating: Unacceptable! First of all, you will be found-out. More importantly however, you aren't going to acquire the skills necessary to be a successful student if you think you need to cheat. You will be dropped and given a grade of F or No Cr if you are caught cheating.

9. POINTS:

Percent of total points:

3-Hour exams (Drop the lowest score)	60%
Poster Presentation	10%
Lecture quizzes (Drop the lowest score)	5%
Lab Grade	<u>25%</u>
TOTAL	100%

GRADES:

A:	90-100%
B:	80-89%
C:	70-79%
D:	60-69%
F:	less than 60%

Three or more missing lab assignments will result in an F or no credit.

10. Cell Phones: No phones in the classroom...TURN THEM OFF AND PUT THEM AWAY! **If I see a phone during an exam, I will take the exam away and you will receive a grade of zero. If you answer a cell phone during class, you will be dropped!**

11. You may not have a dictionary at your desk during an exam. You may leave a paper-based dictionary at my desk that you can consult during the exam as often as you wish. **NO ELECTRIC-BASED DICTIONARIES, TRANSLATORS, PDA'S, CALCULATORS, OR PHONES ALLOWED IN CLASSROOM DURING EXAMS! NO EXCEPTIONS!**

12. Finally, by enrolling in this course you agree to all of the terms stated in the syllabus.

Good luck, have fun, and don't be afraid to ask questions or come see me for more information, guidance, etc.

TIPS:

How to do well in this class:

FORM A STUDY GROUP WITH OTHER MEMBERS. Its easy to spot the students that are in study groups (2-4 members is the best size), they are the people getting an 'A ' or 'B'.

- a. Attend ALL lectures, complete all assigned readings. 80% of success in life is just showing-up.
- b. Take notes and review them daily for questions, clarifications, etc. Make a list of questions you may have after reviewing your notes or the book. Ask each other in the study group, ask me in class, or come see me in my office.
- c. Skim readings before coming to class. Thoroughly read chapters AFTER lecture.
- d. You should study at least two hours EVERY week per unit (this is a 4 unit class...so, 8+ hrs/week). Do it on a regular basis. Make a weekly calendar that has study times. Try to study away from distractions (the library is a good place).
- e. If you are having difficulties, come see me immediately. We can work something out if *YOU* give yourself enough time.
- f. No excuses... Just get it done. Attend class and participate, review your notes every day, meet with your study group, and accept responsibility for you education.
Time management: I'm aware that most of you must work to support yourselves. I'm sensitive to that because I was my own sole support as I earned my degrees. However, no matter what distractions you may have in life, the bottom line is you must learn the material. Make sure you set aside the minimum amount of time necessary outside of class to learn the material. (2-3 hours per unit per week)...so if you are taking 12 units, you need to set aside 24-36 hours per week for studying.

You will be expected to spend at approximately **8 hours a week** outside of class time studying for lecture and lab and completing assignments.

HINT: Remember that the degree(s) you earn do not guarantee you a job, only the right to compete for a job. Focus your educational process (which will continue your whole life) on gaining skills and experiences, not getting grades. This perspective will make learning more enjoyable and you more competitive for that satisfying life you seek.

Students with disabilities who may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to notify the instructor and contact Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) early in the semester so that reasonable accommodations may be implemented as soon as possible. Students may contact DSP&S at (619) 644-7112 (voice) or (619) 644-7119 (TTY for deaf).