

BIODIVERSITY & EVOLUTION BIOL 1400-005

Spring 2011

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Office hours: Tuesday: 9 to 10 a.m.; Thursday 9 to 10 a.m. and 1:10 to 2:10 p.m.
other times by appointment

Course Website: <http://blakemathys.com/be2011.html>

Co-requisite: BIOL1405 Biodiversity & Evolution Laboratory- any section
Laboratory sections will meet beginning the week of September 24th

Textbook: *Biology* Campbell & Reece, eighth edition (2008). Benjamin/Cummings
Text ISBN 978-0-8053-6844-4 ISBN 0-8053-6844-2
Student package ISBN10: 0321543254 ISBN-13: 9780321543257

Course Overview: Biodiversity & Evolution is the second semester of general biology course required for all BIOL, MARS, CHEM, BCMB majors, some PUBH majors, and BIOL minors. This course serves as a foundation for future coursework in these majors. The course focuses on organisms, ecosystems, ecology, and evolutionary biology.

Course Objectives

The course will provide students with the opportunity to:

- Gain factual knowledge of biology terminology and methods
- Learn fundamental principles, generalizations and theories of biology
- Acquire an interest in learning more by asking questions and seeking answers

Course Requirements

Exams

There will be two exams during the semester worth a total of 45% of your final grade. The Final Exam is cumulative and is worth 25% of your final grade. Please see the schedule for exam dates. The format of the exams will be mostly short answer and multiple choice, although occasional questions that require more critical thinking will be included.

MAKEUP EXAMS are only given in extreme situations. If you experience such a situation and are forced to miss an exam, you must contact me **before** the exam. Email is the best medium, although a phone call is acceptable in such an emergency situation.

Quizzes:

Four quizzes given on the dates as indicated in the schedule, with your best three quiz grades counting for your final grade. If you are late to class you will **NOT** be given the opportunity to make-up the quiz.

Homework:

Assignments will be given during the semester; each person must complete the assignments **independently**.

Grading

Two Exams	45 %
Final Exam	25 %
Quizzes (Highest 3 out of 4)	15 %
Homework Assignments	<u>15 %</u>
	100 %

A = 92 – 100%	A – = 90 – 92%	
B + = 88 – 90%	B = 82 – 88%	B – = 80 – 82%
C + = 78 – 80%	C = 72 – 78%	C – = 70 – 72%
D + = 68 – 70%	D = 62 – 68%	D – = 60 – 62%
F < 60%		

I will provide you with your approximate course grade (based on your performance in class up until that point) on each exam. Even if you are satisfied with this grade, do not become complacent, as the final examination is worth 25% of your grade.

Attendance Policy

I do not require attendance at lectures; however, I strongly recommend it. Attending every lecture is the easiest and best way to begin your preparation for the quizzes and exams.

Classroom Conduct

Please make every effort to be on time for class. Quizzes will be given at the beginning of the period; if you are late, you will only have the allotted time available to take the quiz, no extra time will be given. If you are so late as to completely miss the quiz, no make-up quiz will be possible. If you must be late to lecture, please strive to enter quietly and with as little disruption as possible. During lectures, I ask that you refrain from using any of the myriad electronic devices available to you, especially those that will result in distraction for other students. If I notice such distractions occurring during the lecture period, I may ask you to cease using the device. If you need to have your cell phone on for some exceptional circumstance (family emergency or something similar), please just inform me and it will not be a problem.

Academic Honesty

I take academic honesty very seriously. I will make every effort to limit opportunities for dishonesty; however I am well aware that it is not possible to exclude all possibility for cheating. If I detect cheating I will pursue it. If I confirm academic dishonesty, you will receive an F in the course and I will report you; please be sure to read Stockton's "Academic Honesty" document: <http://intraweb.stockton.edu/eyos/page.cfm?siteID=14&pageID=62>

Grade Concerns

If you have concerns about your grade for this course, please approach me during the semester so that we can address the issue. Do not wait until the end of the course and then plead for mercy; after final grades are assigned, they will not be changed.

THERE WILL BE NO EXTRA CREDIT AVAILABLE.

Special Accommodations

Students needing accommodations for disabilities should make their request through the Learning Access program.

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Lecture schedule*:

Month	Day	Date	Subject Material	Textbook	Quizzes
Jan	T	18	Darwinian Evolution	22	
	R	20	Darwinian Evolution	22	
	T	25	History of Life on Earth	25	
	R	27	Origin of Species	24	
Feb	T	1	Origin of Species	24	
	R	3	Evolution of Populations	23	Quiz 1
	T	8	Evolution of Populations	23	
	R	10	Phylogeny	26	
	T	15	Review Day		
	R	17	EXAM 1: Chapters 22-26		
	T	22	Bacteria and Archaea	27	
	R	24	Bacteria and Archaea	27	
Mar	T	1	Protists	28	
	R	3	Protists	28	Quiz 2
	T	8	Plant Diversity I	29	
	R	10	Plant Diversity II	30	
	T	15	SPRING BREAK		
	R	17	SPRING BREAK		
	T	22	Fungi	31	Quiz 3
	R	24	Review Day		
	T	29	NO CLASS - PRECEPTING		
	R	31	EXAM 2: Chapters 27-31		
Apr	T	5	Animal Diversity	32	
	R	7	Invertebrates	33	
	T	12	Invertebrates	33	
	R	14	Vertebrates	34	Quiz 4
	T	19	Vertebrates	34	
	R	21	Conservation Biology	56	
	T	26	Review Day		
	R	28	FINAL EXAM: Chapters 22-34,56		

* = Schedule subject to change. If changes are made, students will be promptly informed.

Supplemental readings may be assigned throughout the semester

HOW TO DO WELL IN THIS CLASS

1. Come to lecture every time
2. Pay attention in lecture (e.g., don't text message)
3. Take notes
4. On the same day as the lecture, take 30 minutes and review your notes; if something doesn't make sense, email me or ask about it at the beginning of the next lecture
5. Come to my office hours; look through your notes and find the three (or more) concepts you least understand, have me go over those with you again one-on-one
6. Get the textbook and use it; much of my lecture comes directly from the text

Quiz Etiquette

Quizzes will be at the beginning of class. If you finish early, please just sit quietly and wait for everyone else to finish. In order to limit cheating, I would like everyone to remain seated until the quizzes are handed in. During this time of quiet reflection, please do not get your cell phone out or ask to use the restroom. Make sure you are happy with your quiz answers, and wait.

How to correctly write an email to an instructor/professor (or anyone else, for that matter):

1. Use a descriptive subject
2. Address it to the intended recipient
3. Capitalize, spell check, and write complete sentences
4. Include your full name at the end (I've more than once been baffled by unsigned emails)
5. Proofread

Example:

Subject: Quiz question

Professor Mathys—

I have a question about Thursday's quiz. Are all vertebrates as cool as salamanders, or just birds? Thank you for your time.

**Sincerely,
Ruth Harkness**

Example of what not to do:

Subject: thursday

prof, will their be a cruve on thursdays quiz. i wasnt sure. thanx