

Professors

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Lecture

Tues & Thurs 9:30-10:45 AM
 Young CS50

Discussion	Time	TA	Location
1A	Mon 9:00-10:50A	SP	MS 3915D
1B	Mon 1:00-2:50P	JP	PUB AF 2278
1C	Tues 3:00-4:50P	JD	GEOL 3656
1D	Weds 8:00-9:50A	NL	MS 5233
1E	Weds 2:00-3:50P	JD	BOELT 2760
1F	Thurs 3:00-4:50P	SP	FRANZ 2288
1G	Fri 8:00-9:50A	WK	LAKRETZ 120
1H	Fri 10:00-11:50A	WK	LAKRETZ 120
1I	Fri 12:00-1:50P	JP	LAKRETZ 120
1J	Fri 2:00-3:50P	NL	BOTANY 325

Required texts:
 1) Reader: Intro to Ecology
 2) J. Alcock *Animal Behavior*, 8th edition.

Course website:
<http://www.lsic.ucla.edu/classes/fall07/>

Date	#	Topics	Reading
27 Sep Thurs	1	Introduction to ecology (Fong) Factors that limit the distribution of populations	Reader #1
2 Oct Tues	2	Intraspecific factors that limit the abundance of populations	Reader #2
4 Oct Thurs	3	Populations: Species-species interactions	Reader #3
9 Oct Tues	4	Populations: Species-species interactions (con't)	Reader #3
11 Oct Thurs	5	Community ecology: nature and structure	Reader #4
16 Oct Tues	6	Community ecology: nature and structure (con't)	Reader #4
18 Oct Thurs	7	Community ecology: change and disturbance	Reader #5

Date	#	Topics	Reading
23 Oct Tues	8	Ecosystem ecology: structure and nutrient cycles	Reader #6
25 Oct Thurs	9	Applied ecology: seagrass and coral reef loss	No required reading
30 Oct Tues	10	TBA	
1 Nov Thurs	11	Introduction to Behavior (Grether) Natural selection	Evolution Primer & Alcock Ch. 1
6 Nov Tues		Midterm exam	
8 Nov Thurs	12	Proximate vs. ultimate Neural and hormonal mechanisms	Alcock Ch. 2
13 Nov Tues	13	Behavior development	Alcock Ch. 3
15 Nov Thurs	14	Optimal foraging	Alcock Ch. 7
20 Nov Tues	15	Predator-prey arms races	Alcock Ch. 6
23 Nov Thurs		<i>Thanksgiving holiday</i>	
27 Nov Tues	16	Sex roles, parental care, mating systems and sexual selection	Alcock Ch. 10 & 11
29 Nov Thurs	17	Sex roles, parental care, mating systems and sexual selection (cont.)	Alcock Ch. 10 & 11
4 Dec Tues	18	Evolution of social behavior	Alcock Ch. 13
6 Dec Thurs	19	Evolution of social behavior (cont.)	Alcock Ch. 13
12 Dec Weds		Final Exam 9:00-11:00 AM	

MIDTERM EXAM: A combination of multiple choice, true/false, definitions, and short answer/essay questions. No notes or calculators will be allowed.

FINAL EXAM: The final will be identical to the midterm in length and point value, and will cover *only the last half of the course*. It will also be a combination of the above types of questions, and be worth 30% of the grade. Note that you will have 2 hours to complete the final exam, not the full 3 hours scheduled by the registrar.

SCHEDULE FOR EEB 100 DISCUSSIONS:

Week 1 (Oct 1-5)

Topic: The scientific method. Demonstrations with ecology and/or behavior examples. (10 points)

Assignment 1: The first ecology paper from the primary literature will be handed out with a worksheet provided. Worksheet due in discussion week 2.

Week 2 (Oct 8-12)

Topic: In-class discussion of the paper assigned in week 1. (20 points)

Assignment #1: Worksheet on paper #1 due (20 points). Second paper from the scientific literature assigned, with instructions on how to write a formal critique.

Week 3 (Oct 15-19)

Topic: The second ecology paper from the primary literature will be discussed (20 points)

Assignment #2: Turn in a formal critique of the second ecology paper (50 points).

Out of class assignment: Go out in the field and make ecological observations (40 points).

Week 4 (Oct 22-26)

Topic: Group discussion of field observations (ecology) (20 points)

Week 5 (Oct 29-Nov 2)

Topic: Library research methods (Biomed library); introduction to research proposal (10 points).

Assignment #3: Proposal explained and prospectus assignment given. Find a topic that will form the basis for your proposed study and 3 papers relevant to that topic. For the prospectus, describe the topic in one paragraph and list the 3 papers.

Week 6 (Nov 5-9)

Topic: Introduction to statistics and experimental design (10 points)

Out of class assignment: go out in the field and make behavioral observations (40 points)

Week 7 (Nov 12-16)

Topic: Group discussion of field observations (behavior) (20 points)

Assignment #3: Proposal prospectus due. (20 points)

Assignment #4: Proposal assignment given (4 pages; 100 pts). After receiving feedback on your prospectus from your TA, start writing the proposal. Due in discussion section week 10.

Week 8 (Nov 19-23)

No discussion (Thanksgiving holiday)

Week 9 (Nov 26-30)

Topic: Computer lab (Young 4336): learn how to use J-Watcher to quantify behavior (10 points).

Week 10 (Dec 3-7)

Topic: Collate and discuss results from the J-watcher exercise (10 points) Review for final (optional)

Assignment #4: Proposals due

GRADING

Discussion:	400 points
Ecology test:	300 points
Behavior test:	300 points
Total:	1000 points

The discussion sections are worth a total of 400 points (attendance and assignments combined), and the two exams are each worth 300 points for a total of 1000 points possible. If the class mean is 75% or higher, letter grades will be based on a straight percentage of the 1000 point maximum according to the breakdown shown in the box. Within each letter grade, a minus (-) will be assigned to the bottom three percentage points and a plus (+) will be assigned to the top three percentage points (e.g., 80-82.9% is a B-, 87-89.9% is a B+). If the class mean is *lower* than 75%, we will lower the cutoffs somewhat to compensate (e.g., 89% will become an A-).

90-100%	A±
80-89%	B±
70-79%	C±
60-69%	D±
<60%	F

Please check the syllabus carefully to make sure you do not have a scheduling conflict with the test dates. **No make-up tests or extra credit assignments will be given.**

POLICY ON LATE ASSIGNMENTS To be fair to your fellow students, late assignments will lose 10% of the point value each day late. This penalty includes weekends and holidays and begins accruing immediately after papers are collected (e.g., in lecture or in discussion). Please hand in your assignments when they are due to avoid penalties.

STUDY TIPS Although the tests may include any material covered in lecture, discussion or the assigned readings, you should pay special attention to the lecture material. The emphasis of the tests will be on concepts (theories) and scientific approaches (methods). You will encounter many terms in this course that have both common and scientific meanings. It is very important that you learn the scientific definitions of these terms, as given in lecture or the assigned readings. In general, you will not be expected to learn the names of scientists mentioned in lecture, but you should be familiar with the names of people associated with major conceptual advances (e.g., Connell, Darwin, Hamilton). One of the best ways to study for this course (and others like it) is to convert your lecture and reading notes into a series of questions and write the answers down separately (e.g., on opposite sides of the same page) in your own words. When studying, try to answer the questions again but without looking at the answers. Rote memorization will not serve you very well in this course.

DROPPING THE COURSE If you perform poorly in this course, the grade you receive could prevent you from graduating or from getting into a professional school. If you are failing the course, it may be in your best interests to drop it. Do not wait until the deadline to get our signatures on the drop form. After we sign the form, you are *not* obligated to turn it in (if you change your mind).

***** PLAGIARISM WARNING*****

Any student who submits work that appears to have been copied from another student's work will have their case immediately forwarded to the Dean's Office for disciplinary action. The same policy is in effect for plagiarism from the scientific literature and the Internet. We will review in class what constitutes plagiarism, but you can look at the following websites:
http://krispy.humnet.ucla.edu/esl/final/tutorial/module4/plagiarism_TrapsTips.html
http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_plagiar.html
<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets.shtml>

We require students to submit their papers to turnitin.com and to include this report when handing in papers. It takes up to 24 hrs for this website to process a paper, so budget your time accordingly.