

EEB 116: CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

Summer 2009

Instructor (Lecture):

Dr. Alison (Ali) Hamilton
Office: LS 5303
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Office Hours: Wednesday 3-5

Teaching Assistant (Discussion):

Jaime Chaves
Office: LS 5303
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Office Hours: Tuesday 2-3, Thursday 2-3

Lectures: MWF 11:00-12:30 in Perloff 1102

Discussion 1A: Mondays 1-2:50 LaKretz 100
Discussion 1B: Mondays 3-4:50 LaKretz 100
Discussion 1C: Wednesdays 1-2:50 LaKretz 100

Course materials:

There are two textbooks for this course. These books are both available in the campus bookstore.

- *The Principles of Conservation Biology* (Third edition, 2006)
Authors: Groom, M.J., G. K. Meffe, and C. R. Carroll.
- *The future of life*
Author: Wilson, E. O.

In addition, we will be assigning papers and popular press items to be read for discussion and lecture.

Course Grading:

Letter grades will be based on a straight percentage. There will not be a curve.

Exam 1	150 points
Exam 2	150 points
Lecture points	35 points
<u>Discussion</u>	<u>115 points*</u>
Total course points:	450 points

*See the syllabus and information for the Discussion sections for details and the breakdown of points.

Exams:

There will be two exams in this course. These exams will be equally weighted and will each cover approximately 50% of the course material. These exams will be a combination of multiple choice questions, short answer, essay-style questions, and problem solving. Each exam will be worth 150 points and will be given during the normal class time. Check the syllabus to make sure that you do not have a conflict with these exam dates and times, as no make-ups will be given.

Lecture points:

These points will come from short writing assignments, class discussions, and activities in the lectures. Some of these points will be earned for assignments given ahead of time and due in class, some will be earned for assignments given ahead of time and turned in via Blackboard prior to attending lecture, and others will be earned during lectures themselves but not announced ahead of time. The total possible points toward your grade earned in this way is 35 points, but more than 35 points will be available, allowing you to miss at least one opportunity to earn points without being penalized.

Discussion:

A large component of your grade (approximately 25%) is earned in the discussion section. Your grade for the discussion will be determined from participation in and attendance at discussion sections, quizzes based on weekly reading assignments, and a presentation. See the discussion syllabus and information for the details of this component of the course.

Course Policies:

- **No cell phones** during lecture or discussion. Turn them off before we start.
- We expect you to be an active participant in your education, and putting in the effort required to earn the grade you want to receive. Because this is a summer course, we have less time to cover the material. The faster pace of the course will necessitate keeping up with the material as we go along if you want to do well.
- Both Jaime and I will use email to communicate with you throughout the quarter. The way that we send these emails is through the “my ucla” or blackboard websites. Please check to **make sure that the email address on file for you with the university is an address that you use-- otherwise you will miss important information.**

How can you do well in this class?

- Attend lectures and take notes. Taking notes really does help you learn and retain material.
 - Come to discussion and participate. The material is meant to help you understand the lectures, and complement the lecture material by providing current perspectives in the rapidly developing field of conservation. If you miss discussion, you miss points.
 - Read the assigned papers for both discussion and lecture. We have chosen papers that build on the basic material covered in lecture. Doing this reading will enhance your comprehension of the materials, and help you understand the basic principles and see how they are applied.
 - Ask questions in lectures, discussion or office hours when material is unclear.
 - Get help from us if you need it.
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Lecture Schedule for Conservation Biology: Summer 2009

Week	Day	Date	Topic	Corresponding Reading
1	M	6/22	Conservation biology: an overview History of conservation biology	Chapter 1
	W	6/24	Global patterns of biodiversity	Chapter 2
	F	6/26	Global patterns of biodiversity	
2	M	6/29	Habitat degradation & Habitat loss Fragmentation	Chapters 6,7
	W	7/1	Fragmentation Overexploitation	Chapter 8
	F	7/3	Holiday: NO CLASS	
3	M	7/6	Extinctions and extirpations in Oceania Introductions and invasive species	Chapter 9
	W	7/8	Invasive species	Chapter 9
	F	7/10	EXAM 1	
4	M	7/13	Climate change	Chapter 10
	W	7/15	Why is genetic variation important? How do we measure genetic variation?	Chapter 11
	F	7/17	How do we measure genetic variation? What should we conserve? <i>Guest lecture: Dr. Katy Semple (UCLA)</i>	Chapter 11
	M	7/20	Island biogeography Reserve design Habitat corridors	
5	W	7/22	Habitat corridors Metapopulations	Chapter 12
	F	7/24	Restoration- theory, practice & regulations	Chapter 15
	M	7/27	Integration of conservation science & policy <i>Guest lecture: Dr. Ryan Harrigan (CTR, UCLA)</i>	Chapter 17
6	W	7/29	Conservation in small island nations Conservation in South America	
	F	7/31	EXAM 2	