

ECOLOGY - BIOL 230 Fall 2014 COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an in depth study of the general principles of Ecology. We will study the scientific method, biomes and ecosystems, population dynamics, predator-prey interactions, and global ecosystems. This course consists of three one-hour lecture and one two-hour lab each week.

INSTRUCTOR: Kenneth Cabarle

OFFICE: NSC 113

OFFICE HOURS: M,T,W 10:00-10:50, W, 2:00-2:50; by appointment

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LECTURE: 1:00 to 1:50 am MWF in NSC 103

LAB: 1:00-2:50 am on Tuesday in NSC 128

TEXT: Ecology, Concepts and Applications, Molles, 4th Edition

GRADING: Grading is based on a standard college curve, where students earn a grade based upon the percent of total possible points they obtain. The lecture component of this course consists of 600 points (12 drop quizzes worth 5 points each, assignments worth 100 points, 3 lecture exams worth 100 points each, and one final exam worth 150 points). Drop quizzes and assignments may not be made up, but students will be able to drop the lowest two scores of the twelve drop quizzes given during the semester. There is a one week grace period to make up any missed exam. Any missed exam not made up within the allotted time will be given a zero. Make-up exams may be of an essay nature and are usually considered more difficult. (Note: It is the responsibility of the student to schedule make-up work with the instructor at a time convenient to both parties.) Final letter grades are assigned based on the following criteria:

- A = 90-100% of the total points
- B = 80-90% of the total points
- C = 70-80% of the total points
- D = 60-70% of the total points
- F = <60% of the total points

ECOLOGY - BIOL 230

GOAL:

The goal of this course is to facilitate learning about Ecology so that students better understand and appreciate the inter-relationships between animals and their environment in order to promote the advancement of life sciences in society and to prepare students for a career in life sciences.

General Education Goals and Objectives:

- 1) To learn and retain information essential to a broad knowledge of ecology.
- 2) To understand and utilize scientific methods of inquiry.

- 3) To understand current scientific views of natural phenomenon.
- 4) To practice sound, safe, and sensible laboratory techniques.
- 5) To appreciate the historic development of science.
- 6) To approach and solve problems by utilizing logical thought processes.
- 7) To apply scientific information and principles to everyday life.
- 8) Collect and organize data in a systematic manner.
- 9) To analyze and interpret data in accordance with scientific principles to make informed decisions and ethical choices.
- 10) To recognize the relationship between science and technology.

Student E-mail Policy:

Dakota College is increasingly dependent upon e-mail as an official form of communication. A student's campus assigned e-mail address will be the only one recognized by the campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus e-mail rests with the student.

Classroom Policies:

All students will respect the classroom environment which will allow for maximum interaction between students and the professor.

Lab policies: Labs in this class are a privilege. Violation of school procedures regarding student conduct will not be tolerated. Many of the labs are all day field trips and you will be exempt from other classes. However, this does not exempt you from the work that is missed for those classes. All missed work from classes missed because of lab will be made up per arrangements with the other instructors. Students that violate this will miss out on future field trips. Labs are repeated around the same time each year.

Academic Integrity:

All students will do their own, original work on reports, laboratory assignments, and essays. Any student caught cheating on an exam or quiz will be reprimanded the first time. If it happens again, the student will drop the class.

Disabilities and Special Needs: Please inform the professor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READING</u>
8-27	Introduction: What Is Ecology?	Chpt. 1
8-29	Introduction: What Is Ecology?	Chpt. 1
9-1	NO CLASS - LABOR DAY	
9-3	Life on Land	Chpt. 2
9-5	Life on Land/Life in Water	Chpt 2/Chpt. 3
9-8	Life in Water	Chpt. 3
9-10	Temperature Relations	Chpt. 4
9-12	Water Relations	Chpt. 5
9-15	Energy and Nutrient Relations	Chpt. 6

9-17	Social Relations	Chpt. 7
9-19	Review and start population ecology	Chpt. 8
9-24	EXAM I	
9-26	Population Genetics and Natural selection	Chpt. 8
9-29	Population Genetics and Natural selection	Chpt. 8
10-1	Population Distribution and Abundance	Chpt. 9
10-3	Population Dynamics	Chpt. 10
10-6	Population Dynamics	Chpt. 10
10-8	NO CLASS - ASSESSMENT DAY	
10-10	Population Growth	Chpt. 11
10-13	Population Growth	Chpt. 11
10-15	Life Histories	Chpt. 12
10-17	Exam Review and start Competition	Chpt. 13
10-20	Exam Review and start Competition	Chpt. 13
10-22	EXAM II	
10-24	Competition	Chpt. 13
10-27	Competition	Chpt. 13
10-29	Exploitative Interactions	Chpt. 14
10-31	Exploitative Interactions	Chpt. 14
11-3	Mutualism	Chpt. 15
11-5	Species Abundance and Diversity	Chpt. 16
11-7	Species interactions and Community Structure	Chpt. 17
11-10	Primary Production and Energy Flow	Chpt. 18
11-11	NO CLASS - VETERANS DAY	
11-12	Nutrient Cycling and Retention	Chpt. 19
11-14	Nutrient Cycling and Retention	Chpt. 19
11-17	Succession and Stability	Chpt. 20
11-19	Succession and Stability	Chpt. 20
11-21	Review	
11-24	EXAM III	
11-26	Landscape Ecology	Chpt. 21
11-27/28	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING	
12-1	Landscape Ecology	Chpt. 21
12-3	Landscape Ecology	Chpt. 21
12-5	Geographic Ecology	Chpt. 22
12-10	Geographic Ecology	Chpt. 22
12-12	Review for Exam	
12-15/19	Final Exams	