

Course Syllabus

SPRING 2017

COORDINATOR: Dr. John Yarotsky Instructor(TA): Courtney Rockenbac cr474@scarletmail.rutg Iqra Iqbal: ii9@njit.edu Iqra Iqbal: ii9@njit.edu Nicole Dykstra: niki.dykstra@gmail.com	1
OFFICE: 340C Central King Bldg. COURSE WEBSITE: <u>http://moodle.njit.edu</u>	<u>u/</u>
OFFICE HOURS:T: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM By Appointment OnlyCOURSE SCHEDULE:Sections 002-108	
EMAIL:yarotsky@njit.eduLocation:CKB: 328	

BIOL 206 (002-108): Foundations in Biology: Ecology & Evolution LAB

DESCRIPTION:

This course is the laboratory component of Foundations in Biology: Ecology and Evolution. You **MUST** be registered for the lectures (Biology 205) to take the lab. The labs are designed to complement and elaborate upon concepts learned in the lecture, to give you hands-on experience making observations and gathering data, and to introduce you to common procedures and analyses used in the study of ecology and evolution.

PREREQUISITES:

BIOL 200: Concepts in Biology and current registration in BIOL 205.

TEXT AND COURSE WEB PAGE:

There is no textbook for this lab. All lab materials will be posted on the course website. We will use <u>Moodle</u> in this course. To use Moodle students must have an NJIT UCID. If you are matriculated at NJIT you should already have a UCID. If you are a Rutgers student you can request one here <u>https://newacct.njit.edu/~accts/cgi-bin/new</u> or call the NJIT helpdesk for assistance (973-596-2900).

LAB PREPARATION:

For each lab, a lab handout and a lab worksheet will be posted on the course website by Friday before the week of lab. Please read through the files thoroughly before coming to lab, and be sure to bring a print-out (or electronic) to each lab. Note that for some labs, you will need to bring handouts and worksheets for two labs. Please <u>obtain a 3-ring binder</u> to keep your lab handouts and worksheets organized into a lab notebook.



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LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1.) Explain how laboratory activities illustrate lecture concepts.
- 2.) Use evidence to support scientific conclusions.
- 3.) Research topics using electronic and print sources and attribute sources properly.
- 4.) Design and carry out an experiment to test a scientific question.
- 5.) Analyze and interpret scientific data using a t-test.
- 6.) Communicate scientific results in written format.
- 7.) Collaborate in groups to research aspects of experiments and engage in active learning.

COURSE GRADE:

Your grade for lab will be determined based on quizzes, Moodle assignments, and one written lab report:

- Quizzes: You will begin each lab with a quiz. Students arriving late to lab will not be permitted to take the quiz. Make sure you read the lab handout before coming to lab so you're prepared! The quizzes will focus on the current week's lab and will also include some review from previous weeks.
- Assignments: Each week, complete the worksheet that accompanies your lab handout. Some of it will be completed during the lab; often, there are analyses or interpretive questions that you'll need to complete on your own time. Refer to your completed worksheet to complete each lab's Moodle assignment, which will be open for one week after the lab is completed (see schedule above). You will have the opportunity to complete the Moodle assignment twice. You DO NOT need to take it twice! If you are happy with your first score you may simply not take it a second time. If you take it twice the highest of the two grades will count. Please note that while you usually work in groups during the lab and will share data and discuss results with your group, your worksheet and other parts of the assignment <u>must be your own work</u>.
- Lab Report: You will design a plant experiment and report the results in a full lab report in the style of a scientific publication. Failure to turn in a draft on time will result in a loss of up to 25 points. Each day that the Draft and Final Report are late will result in a 10% penalty.

POINT BREAKDOWN			GRADING SCALE				
Quizzes:	15 pts per week =	180 points		А	89.5-100%	С	69.5-76.4%
Assignments:	15 pts per lab =	180 points		B+	86.5-89.4%	D	59.5-69.4%
Lab Report:	=	100 points		В	79.5-86.4%	F	59.4%-0%
Total	=	460 Points		C+	76.5-79.4%		

- Attendance, Make-Up, and Lateness Policy: Attendance at every lab is required and necessary to earn a good grade in lab. If you must miss lab for a valid reason, you may attend another lab section during the SAME week only, with documentation (doctor's or dean's note) of your absence. You MUST let your TA know if you want to make-up a missed lab. -
- Academic Dishonesty: The course has a zero tolerance policy for academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating. Instances of dishonesty will be punished by a zero on the assignment and consultation with the office of the Dean of Students to determine if further action is required. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism or cheating, please ask your TA or refer to the academic integrity code <u>NJIT Academic Integrity Code</u>.



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LAB SAFETY: General safety precautions:

- No eating or drinking in the lab. No Water bottles!
- Wear closed-toed shoes to lab.
- Follow the directions for lab procedures and ask your TA if you're unsure about how to operate any equipment.
- Keep an organized workspace and label all materials.
- Your lab handouts and your TA will alert you to safety concerns specific to a particular lab.

NOTE: You should notify your TA immediately of any injuries, spills, or broken equipment.

LAB SCHEDULE:

WEEK OF	LECTURE TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT DUE	NOTES					
Jan. 17	NO LABS							
Jan. 23	Lab 1: Variation and Statistics							
Jan. 30	Lab 2: Genetic Change in Model Populations	Lab 1 DUE						
Feb. 6	Lab 3: Computer Simulation: Darwinian Snails	Lab 2 DUE						
Feb. 13	Lab 4: DNA Barcoding and Extraction [Week 1]	Lab 3 DUE						
Feb. 20	Lab 4: DNA Barcoding and Extraction [Week 2] Lab 5: Constructing Phylogeny [Week 1]							
Feb. 27	Lab 5: Constructing a Phylogeny [Week 2] Lab 10: Competition [Week 1]	Lab 4 DUE						
Mar. 6	 Begin Your Plant Experiments Lab 6: How to Write a Lab Report 	Lab 5 DUE						
Mar. 13	MARCH 12-19: SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES							
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Mar. 20	Lab 7: Plant Species Identification	Lab 6 DUE						
Mar. 27	Lab 8: Mark-Recapture Lab 10: Competition [Week 2] End Experiments	Lab 7 DUE						
Apr. 3	Lab 9: Computer Simulation : Isle Royale Lab 10: Competition [Week 3]	Lab 8 DUE Lab Report DRAFT DUE						
Apr. 10	NO IN-CLASS LAB- GOOD FRIDAY 4/10/17							
Apr. 17	Lab 11: Plant Species identification	Lab 9,10 DUE						
Apr. 24	Lab 12: Ecological Footprint	Lab 11 DUE						
May 2	NO LABS	Lab 12 DUE FINAL LAB REPORT DUE						
	FINAL EXAM WEEK: MAY 5-11, 2017							