

COURSE SYLLABUS: BIOLOGY 211 – SPRING 2017
BIODIVERSITY, ECOLOGY, AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

Lecture: MWF / 1:30 – 2:20 PM) (HAROUR WALK EAST, RM. 305)

Recitation: (BIOL 211D) - Thursday / 2:10 – 5:10 PM (HARBOUR WALK EAST, RM 305; LIBRARY)

Text: Biological Science (**5th Edition**) S. Freeman

Prerequisites: Biology 111, 112 (**Both** with passing grades) or equivalent

Instructor: Dr. William Alevizon / Email: alevizonws@cofc.edu

Office: RM (LAB 216: Harbour Walk)

Office Hours: Monday 11-11:50 AM and 1:30 – 2PM Thursday. Many minor issues can be addressed quickly by email

Course Overview (Lecture**):** The lecture portion of this course focuses on three main areas of biology:

(1) **Biodiversity (Tree of Life)** – a survey of the major groups of Earth’s living organisms, and how these groups are related by common descent

(2) **Ecology** – The scientific study of the abundance and distribution of organisms

(3) **Conservation Biology** – alleviating human impacts upon other species

COURSE POLICIES – PLEASE HEED

Attendance and Participation – Attendance is mandatory, and excessive *unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade*. If you must miss lecture, be sure to get notes from a trusted fellow student.

Exams – If you KNOW you must miss an exam, you are required to *discuss this with the instructor well in advance*. Make-up exams will be given only for excused absences.

Respectful conduct in class – Your conduct in class is expected to be *respectful of your classmates and the common learning environment*. This means:

- * arriving and **being seated prior to official class start time**. If late arrival or early departure from class is absolutely essential from time to time, quietly enter/exit.
- * saving private conversations with others for after class – talking with your neighbors during a lecture is **rude, distracting, and unacceptable**
- * **Unless you are otherwise authorized** by the instructor (due to extenuating circumstances), **ALL** cell phones, laptop computers, and other portable electronic devices **must be turned off during class**. No exceptions – including texting during class.

**ALWAYS REMEMBER: YOU CAN SURVIVE 1 HR (in mild climates)
WITHOUT FOOD, WATER, TWEETS, LIKES, EMAIL, OR BEING LINKEDIN**

Basically, **if you do not plan on giving full attention to the whole of the class discussions and lectures, don't bother showing up**

Academic Integrity / Honor Code: All class work must be your own original work and must not have been submitted for a grade in any other class while at the College of Charleston or elsewhere. Furthermore, no project done in this class may be submitted for grading in any other present or future course. To do so will be construed as a clear violation of the College of Charleston's Honor Code.

How To Get A Good Grade In Lecture

Grading: Your Lecture grade will represent **75%** of the total grade for the course (the other **25%** will be based upon your grade for Recitation).

Your lecture grade will be calculated as the number of questions answered correctly on **THREE** Midterm Exams, each counting for 20% of the grade. The final exam will count for the remaining 40% of your lecture grade. Borderline cases may be decided by the # of unexcused absences from lecture.

Lecture Notes:

Taking good notes is **essential to success in college**. It is probably the most important learning skill you can master.

I recommend that you **make the following routine a part of your studies** for all classes:

- a. Take clear notes by **paraphrasing, in your own words, all essential points discussed**; *do not attempt to write down everything verbatim.*
- b. After each main topic is completed in lecture (may be more than 1 lecture), **rewrite your notes** (using your textbook as a primary reference source) so that they are **well-organized and clear to you**.
- c. **Highlight any points that you still have questions about**, and keep these notes in a separate file for our pre-exam review sessions.
- d. We will have a **review session** before each exam; **bring your list of points to be clarified to these sessions** and make sure you are clear on these before we wrap up the review.
- e. Prior to each exam, thoroughly **review and memorize your notes**.

Lecture Schedule – Biol. 211– SPRING 2017

<u>Wk</u>	<u>Date (s)</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>
1.	1/11-13	Course Intro; Intro To Systematics
2.	1/18-20	Prokaryotes (Archaea & Bacteria); Eukaryotes 1: (Amoebozoa, Excavata)
3.	1/23-27	Eukaryotes 2: (Chromalveolata; Archaeplastida)
4.	1/30-2/3	More Archaeplastida; Review; 1st Midterm (2/3) ;
5.	2/6-2/10	Eukaryotes 3 (Opisthokonta)
4.	2/13-17	More Opisthokonta...
6.	2/20-24	Intro to Ecology; Factors Affecting Distribution
7.	2/27-3/3	Evolution; Review; 2nd Midterm (3/3)
8.	3/4-12	SPRING BREAK!!!!
9.	3/20-24	Species Interactions
10.	3/27-31	Population Ecology
11.	4/3-7	Community Ecology
12.	4/10-14	Review; 3rd Midterm (4/14) ;
13.	4/17-24	Ecosystem Ecology
14.	4/24-26	Conservation Biology
15.	4/28	FINAL EXAMS BEGIN!!!!

OUR FINAL EXAM - FRIDAY MAY 5 @ NOON

Text (Freeman 5th Ed), Readings as assigned