

BIOL 208 – POPULATION AND COMMUNITY BIOLOGY – SPRING 2009

Lectures: MWF 8:00 AM (Dr. Abrahamson), 11:00 AM (Dr. Jordan)

Laboratories: M & W 2:00-4:52 PM, BIOL 108 & BIOL 110

Instructors:

Dr. Warren Abrahamson, 309 Biology, 577-1155, abrahmsn@bucknell.edu

Dr. Steve Jordan, 310 Biology, 577-1254, sdjordan@bucknell.edu

Course Objectives:

- To examine the central theories and principles of evolution, systematics, and ecology, and to survey the evidence that supports them.
- To examine evolutionary and ecological theories and principles and their importance to diverse subdisciplines of biology – plant and animal, theoretical and applied, physiological and behavioral, population and ecosystem.
- To present perspectives on the natural and human-fabricated worlds.
- To survey the effects that humans have on the composition, structure, and functioning of ecosystems.

Expectations:

Class attendance for every lecture and laboratory is expected as is stated in the Bucknell University Student Handbook. Each student should be prepared for lecture and laboratory by reading the assigned materials before class. Failure to prepare adequately for class will adversely affect students' performance in the course.

Academic-honesty Policy:

We expect that every student has read and understood Bucknell's academic-honesty policy, and also the technological-use policy. We expect strict adherence to both of these policies. Each student will need to prepare assignments, laboratory reports, and debate materials with these issues in mind. If there are any questions throughout the semester, please ask one of the instructors BEFORE any assignment is submitted.

Grading:

Quizzes	5%
Participation	5%
First-hour Examination	20%
Second-hour Examination	20%
Final Examination	25%
Laboratory Reports	25%

Assigned Readings:

Thomas M. Smith and Robert L. Smith. 2001. *Elements of Ecology*, 6th edition, Benjamin Cummings (Pearson).

Scott Freeman. 2008. *Biological Science, Volume 2: Evolution, Diversity, and Ecology* 3rd edition, Prentice Hall (Pearson).

Sean B. Carroll. 2009. *Into the Jungle: Great Adventures in the Search for Evolution*. Benjamin Cummings (Pearson).

COURSE POLICIES

SafeAssign

Two **identical** copies of all lab reports are required: a hard copy and an electronic copy. Both are due at the beginning of the lab period one week after lab manipulations are finished. The hard copy should be turned in to the instructor and/or TA in the classroom (be sure to staple!). The electronic copy should be submitted to SafeAssign via Blackboard. The Word document should be uploaded to SafeAssign immediately before or

after printing the hard copy. If the copies are not identical, they will be returned to you and you will receive a late penalty.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers will be subject to submission for a Textual Similarity Review to SafeAssign for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be added as source documents in the SafeAssign reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the SafeAssign service is subject to the terms of use agreement.

Exam policy

The two hour exams are scheduled for February 18 (Wednesday) and April 3 (Friday). If you have a university-approved extra-curricular activity (athletics, performances, etc.) that conflicts with an exam, you must inform your instructor BEFORE the exam in order for the exam to be administered to you during your absence. If you miss an exam due to an "excused" absence but could not notify your instructor prior to the exam (Dean's approved medical excuse or emergency), you will not receive an exam score and will have the points from the missed exam distributed between the other hour exam and the final exam (10% each). If you miss an exam due to an unexcused absence, you will receive a zero for that exam. There will be no make-up exams.

Late assignment policy

Lab reports must be turned in at the start of each lab period when reports are due. Reports should be printed using both sides of the paper and stapled. Lab reports and other assignments turned in after the due date and time will be penalized 1 point for each day late and 5 points for each week late. The late clock begins as soon as class or lab ends on days when assignments or reports are due, so you will lose a point even if assignments or reports are turned in the day they are due but after the class period. Please plan your assignment preparation carefully to avoid being late for lab. If your lab report is late, it is your responsibility to turn your report in to the grading TA in appropriate format.

Quiz policy

There will be a quiz on each Friday during the semester. Only your highest 10 quiz scores will be used to calculate your quiz grade for the course. If you miss a quiz, it will count as a zero. Since not all quiz scores will be counted in the end, you will not be allowed make-up quizzes, even for excused absences from class. If you have an excused absence obligation requiring you to miss many Friday sessions (>3), please discuss options with your instructor ASAP. At the instructors' discretion, other writing assignments or activities may be substituted for quizzes.

Participation

Individual instructors will outline section policy regarding this component of your grade. As part of your participation grade, you will be required to attend two campus activities related to the course. Activities include departmental seminars, and other appropriate activities announced by your instructor. To receive credit, you will submit a 1-page summary to your instructor within 1 week of the event.