

Environmental Studies 24 – General Ecology
Course Syllabus Summer Session 2015

Instructor: Myra Finkelstein, E-mail: myraf@ucsc.edu
UCSC Office: PSB #444 (note this is in the physical sciences building) Phone: 459-1429
Office Hours: 12-1pm Monday & 12-1pm Wednesday (or by appointment)

All Course Materials Will Be Available on Ecommons. Contact me if you encounter difficulty with access.

Text (required): Elements of Ecology 9th Edition (2014) by R. L. Smith & T. M. Smith, Benjamin Cummings Publisher. Books will also be available on Reserve in the Science Library.

Expectations: Students are required to read assigned chapters, attend all lectures on Monday, Wednesday, Friday from 9 to 11:30am in Soc Sci 2 165 and participate in all assignments/exercises (take home & during lecture) as noted below.

Grading: There will be two midterm examinations (15% each) and a final exam (30%). All students will write a hypothesis paper, including submitting a draft (5%) and final product (10%) and participate in assignments/exercises (25%).

Late assignments: Non-excused late assignments will receive an automatic 5% deduction on the total possible score with an additional 1% deduction for each additional day late.

Extra-credit: Students will be able to earn extra credit equal to 2% of their final grade for attending all lectures on time, participating in class exercises, and having no late assignments.

June 22nd: Introduction & Course Logistics, The Nature of Ecology (Chapter 1), ***hypothesis paper assignment***

June 24th: The Physical Environment - Climate (Chapter 2), The Aquatic Environment (Chapter 3); ***field exercise at UCSC Natural Reserve***

June 26th: Terrestrial Environment (Chapter 4); Ecological Genetics, Adaptation and Natural Selection (Chapter 5)

June 29th: Plant Adaptations to the Environment (Chapter 6); Animal Adaptations to the Environment (Chapter 7); Midterm review

July 1st: Midterm 1, special lecture – using science for conservation

July 3rd: **UCSC HOLIDAY!!**

July 6th: Properties of populations (Chapter 8); Population Growth (Chapter 9), Life History Patterns (Chapter 10); ***population survey exercise***

July 8th: **Meet at the UCSC Greenhouse** (http://bio.classes.ucsc.edu/bio175/Greenhouse_directions.pdf) ***Greenhouse visit and exercise***; Intraspecific Population Regulation (Chapter 11); Species Interactions (Chapter 12); **Draft hypothesis papers due, competition worksheet assignment**

July 10th: Interspecific competition (Chapter 13); Predation (Chapter 14), Midterm review, **competition worksheet assignment due**

July 13th: Midterm 2; 10:30-11:30: UCSC Natural History Museum visit and short assignment

July 15th: Parasitism (Chapter 15); Community Structure and Dynamics (Chapters 16, 17)

July 17th: **Hannah Nevins guest lecture**; Community Structure and Dynamics (Chapter 18), **UCSC Natural History Museum short assignment due**

July 20th: Landscape Dynamics (Chapter 19); Ecosystem Energetics (Chapter 20); **Final hypothesis papers due**

July 22nd: Large-Scale Patterns of Biological Diversity (Chapter 26); Decomposition and Nutrient Recycling (Chapter 21); final exam review

July 24th: FINAL EXAM

KEY DATES: *Assignments due at beginning of lecture unless otherwise noted*

June 29th	Deadline to drop class
July 1st	Midterm 1
July 8th	Draft hypothesis papers due
July 10th	Competition worksheet due, deadline to withdraw from class
July 13th	Midterm 2
July 17th	UCSC Natural History Museum short assignment due
July 20th	Final hypothesis papers due <i>with edited drafts attached</i>

July 24th	FINAL EXAM	9-11:30am Soc Sci 2 165
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Support Resources:

Disabilities Resource Center and Learning Support Services and CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) are open and active all summer. Please let me know if you need help accessing any of these support services.

Academic Advising:

Academic advising is offered all summer; hours will vary by college. Students can contact their colleges to find out when advising is being offered or visiting advising.ucsc.edu.