

**Environmental Studies 24 – General Ecology
Course Syllabus Summer Session 2018**

Instructor: Myra Finkelstein, E-mail: myraf@ucsc.edu
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Office Hours: 1-2pm Tuesday & Thursday (or by appointment)

**All course materials will be available via Canvas (log in at canvas.ucsc.edu to access Canvas).
Contact me if you encounter difficulty with access or using Canvas.**

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

Expectations: Students are required to read assigned chapters, attend all lectures on TuTh 09:00AM-12:30PM in ISB 221 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 (25%). All students will write a hypothesis paper, including submitting a draft (5%) and final product (10%), chapter quizzes due before each lecture (on Canvas under 'Assignments') (10%), and participation in lecture as well as exercises (in class and take-home) (20%).

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 sections **on time**, participating in section exercises, attending lectures, and having no late assignments.

Week 1:

June 26th: Introduction & Course Logistics; hypothesis paper assignment; The Nature of Ecology (Chapter 1); The Physical Environment - Climate (Chapter 2); The Aquatic Environment (Chapter 3)

June 28th: Terrestrial Environment (Chapter 4); Ecological Genetics, Adaptation and Natural Selection (Chapter 5); *Field exercise at UCSC Natural Reserve with Alex Jones (11-1230)*

Week 2:

July 3rd: Plant Adaptations to the Environment (Chapter 6) Animal Adaptations to the Environment (Chapter 7); *Midterm review; Norris Center visit and animal adaptation exercise 1130-1230*

-animal adaption exercise due at end of class

July 5th: Midterm 1, *special lecture TBD*

Week 3:

July 10th: Properties of Populations (Chapter 8); Population Growth (Chapter 9), Life History Patterns (Chapter 10); *mark-recapture in class exercise; Greenhouse visit and exercise, life table exercise, competition worksheet handout*

-greenhouse exercise due at end of class

July 12th: Intraspecific Population Regulation (Chapter 11); Species Interactions (Chapter 12); Interspecific Competition (Chapter 13); Predation (Chapter 14), *competition worksheet; Midterm review*

-mark recapture exercise due at beginning of class

- life table exercise due at end of class

-competition worksheet due at end of class

Week 4:

July 17th: Midterm 2; 10:30-11:30: *special lecture – using science for conservation*

July 19th: Parasitism (Chapter 15); Community Structure and Dynamics (Chapters 16, 17); Community Structure and Dynamics (Chapter 18); *in class exercise trophic cascades, in class exercise species diversity index*

Week 5:

July 24th: Landscape Dynamics (Chapter 19); Ecosystem Energetics (Chapter 20); Decomposition and Nutrient Recycling (Chapter 21); Large-Scale Patterns of Biological Diversity (Chapter 26); *Final review*

- *trophic cascade worksheet due beginning of class*

- *diversity index worksheet due beginning of class*

July 26th: FINAL EXAM, Final hypothesis papers due

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

July 2nd	Deadline to drop class
July 3rd	Hypothesis paper: Topic and citations (Parts 1 and 8) due
July 5th	Midterm 1
July 10th	Hypothesis paper: Research objective, hypothesis and graphical hypothesis due (Parts 2, 3, 4) due
July 13th	Deadline to withdraw from class
July 17th	Midterm 2
July 17th	Hypothesis paper: data to test hypothesis, study description and summary (Parts 5, 6, 7) due
July 26th	Final hypothesis papers due <i>with edited drafts attached</i>

July 26th	FINAL EXAM	9am-12:30pm ISB 221
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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.