

BIOE 82: Introduction to Field Research & Conservation SUMMER 2021

Instructor: Sean Reilly, sreilly@ucsc.edu. Office hours Tuesday by appointment.

Course learning outcomes:

- Familiarity with the natural history of your local ecosystem and Santa Cruz ecosystems.
- Familiarity with the tools used to identify organisms.
- Growing competence in the practice of careful observation of nature.
- Understanding and implementing the scientific process from formulating and testing hypotheses, sampling flora and fauna, data collection, analysis and presentation.

Note: This syllabus is provisional and may need to change. You are responsible for any changes announced in class or on the course Canvas website.

Provisional Schedule (Tuesdays 9:00-12:00pm):

06/22 - Zoom lecture

06/29 - Field trip to Natural Bridges tidepools

07/06 - Field trip to upper UCSC campus

07/13 - Field trip to Younger Lagoon/Coastal Science Campus

07/20 - Field trip to Younger Lagoon/Coastal Science Campus

Field notebooks:

In keeping a field journal, your objective is to create a permanent, accurate, written record of your field activities, observations, and methods, augmented by sketches and specimens as appropriate.

You will do field observations and upload your journal pages each week. See detailed field notebook instructions and how-to video on CANVAS website. Grading of your notebook will be based on completing a number of specific tasks outlined in the weekly schedule, together with an assessment of attention to detail and formatting, and the care and effort taken to engage deeply with nature.

Natural history basics:

Every week we will introduce you to a “plant of the week” and “animal of the week,” taken from species that are part of everyday life in Santa Cruz. In addition, as part of learning the basics of natural history and species identification, you will learn 8 of the most important plant families and 8 of the most common insect orders, together with the basics of vertebrate taxonomy. To help you memorize these, there will be quizzes along the way.

Research project:

Alone or in small groups of 1-3 students, you will design and carry out a research project that tests a question that all of you can apply to your individual site. Groups will make a 5-6 minute video recording of their presentation which is due on July 23rd. Details will be presented on CANVAS.

Assessment:

Field notebooks	35%
Quizzes	35%
Group research project	30%

Attendance policy:

This class will combine asynchronous (you do it on your own time) and synchronous (we are all interacting together) activities. Tuesday classes (synchronous activities) are an important time for connecting, sharing information and field experiences, and discussing ideas about ecology and conservation. Toward the end of the quarter, the small group projects will depend critically on your ability to participate with your group on Tuesdays. Attendance is required and is part of the grade.

If, for whatever reason, you do not feel well or have any COVID-19 symptoms please contact the instructor and *stay home*. If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please let your Instructor know. If you miss a class meeting, you will have the opportunity to make-up the lost participation points, assigned on a case-by-case basis.

Everything in this course is carefully designed to maximize achieving our learning outcomes, and we expect you to participate with your whole self. However, we understand that sometimes life gets in the way of one's best intentions, and this quarter in particular is likely to be challenging for some of you. If you have to miss a class, please watch the video recording and send an email to Kat with your answers to the polls and in-class questions for partial credit. If you miss a deadline for uploading materials to canvas we will follow a "5% per day" rule of deducting points for 10 days, though after 10 days you can still turn the assignment in for a maximum of 50%. If you get seriously ill or are the primary caregiver for someone seriously ill, please let us know and we will work with you to create an integrated plan.

How to prepare for the field:

- **REQUIRED:** Bring your mask (and a back-up mask) to every class.
- Always bring your field notebook!
- Dress warmly and wear layers, this is key. The weather can be unpredictable and shift from clear and warm to foggy and cold within minutes. I've learned not to trust what's reported online as weather because Santa Cruz has so many microclimates, it's lousy at predicting the weather.
- Wear comfortable walking shoes (or hiking boots), must wear close-toed shoes.
 - Note: When we meet at the Coastal Science Campus, feel free to bring with you water shoes or closed toe waterproof shoes (i.e. KEENs) if you have them (not necessary).
- Bring water, coffee, etc. anything you need to feel safe or prepared for sustained periods of natural history observations where it's just you and nature.
- Optional: Feel free to carry with you guide books, binoculars, hand lens, etc.

Dropping or requesting a W:

Drop: Monday, June 28
Request for “W”: Friday, July 9

Summer is unique. **You will not be dropped for non-attendance or non-payment.** You must drop yourself. Dropping before the deadline results in a full-tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including ‘change of grade option’ (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: <https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html>

For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu.

DRC remote accommodations:

The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. Operations continue via remote appointments. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, email the DRC Schedulers at drc@ucsc.edu for an appointment.

Academic dishonesty:

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree. All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student’s transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the [Academic Integrity page](#) at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX:

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. [Information about the Title IX Office](#), the [online reporting link](#), applicable campus resources, reporting responsibilities, the [UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment](#), and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu.

The Title IX Office is actively responding to reports and requests for consultation. If you are not currently working with someone in the office and want to make a report/request a consult, you can expect the fastest response by using our [online reporting link](#).

For more information, please visit the [Title IX Operations under Covid-19](#) page.

Land Acknowledgement:

We would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Uypi Tribe of the Awaswas Nation. Today these lands are represented by the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band who are the descendants of the Awaswas and Mutsun Nations whose ancestors were taken to Mission Santa Cruz and Mission San Juan Bautista during Spanish colonization of the Central Coast.