



## COURSE OUTLINE

### 1. **Course:** ECOL 425, Quantitative Biology II - Fall 2019

Lecture 01: MWF 10:00 - 10:50 in SA 147

Instructor	Email	Phone	Office	Hours
Dr John Post	jrpost@ucalgary.ca	220-6937	BI 581	TBA

#### **Course Site:**

D2L: ECOL 425 L01-(Fall 2019)-Quantitative Biology II

**Note:** Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

### 2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

#### **Prerequisite(s):**

Biology 313 and 315.

### 3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Component(s)	Weighting %	Date
Midterm Examination	30%	Oct. 22, 2019
Laboratory Assignments	40%	
Final Examination	30%	

Students must achieve a passing grade (minimum of D) for at least one of the midterm and final exams, and for the laboratory portion of the course to qualify for a passing grade overall.

Each piece of work (reports, assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a grade. The student's grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

The conversion between a percentage grade and letter grade is as follows.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
<b>Minimum % Required</b>	95 %	90 %	85 %	80%	75%	70 %	65 %	60%	55%	53 %	50 %

This course has a registrar scheduled final exam.

### 4. **Missed Components Of Term Work:**

In the event that a student misses the midterm or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration will be required (see [Section M.1](#); for more information regarding the use of statutory declaration/medical notes, see [FAQ](#)). Absences must be reported within 48 hrs.

The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in [Section 3.6](#). It is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with these regulations. See also [Section E.3](#) of the University Calendar.

5. **Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:**

The following out of class activities are scheduled for this course.

Activity	Location	Date and Time	Duration
MT Exam	TBA	Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 7:00 pm	2 Hours

**REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OUT-OF-CLASS-TIME-ACTIVITY.** If you have a conflict with the out-of-class-time-activity, please contact your course coordinator/instructor no later than **14 days prior** to the date of the out-of-class activity so that alternative arrangements may be made.

6. **Course Materials:**

There are no additional course materials required for this course.

7. **Examination Policy:**

No aids are allowed on tests or examinations.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. **Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:**

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

9. **Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:**

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also Section [E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

10. **Human & Living Organism Studies Statements:**

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

**STUDIES IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES INVOLVE THE USE OF LIVING AND DEAD ORGANISMS.** Students taking laboratory- and field-based courses in these disciplines can expect involvement with and experimentation on such materials. Students perform dissections on dead or preserved organisms in some courses. In particular courses, students experiment on living organisms, their tissues, cells, or molecules. Sometimes field work requires students to collect a variety of living materials by many methods, including humane trapping.

All work on humans and other animals conforms to the Helsinki Declaration and to the regulations of the Canadian Council on Animal Care. The Department strives for the highest ethical standards consistent with stewardship of the environment for organisms whose use is not governed by statutory authority. Individuals contemplating taking courses or majoring in one of the fields of study offered by the Department of Biological Sciences should ensure that they have fully considered these issues before enrolling. Students are advised to discuss any concern they might have with the Undergraduate Program Director of the Department.

Students are expected to be familiar with [Section SC.4.1](#) of the University Calendar.

11. **Reappraisal Of Grades:**

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

a. **Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **10 business days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall immediately submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work form to the department in which the course is offered. The department will arrange for a re-assessment of the work if, and only if, the student has sufficient academic grounds. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar

b. **Final Exam:**The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

## 12. Other Important Information For Students:

- a. **Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- b. **SU Wellness Center:** The Students Union Wellness Centre provides health and wellness support for students including information and counselling on physical health, mental health and nutrition. For more information, see [www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre](http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre) or call [403-210-9355](tel:403-210-9355).
- c. **Sexual Violence:** The University of Calgary is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment. The Sexual Violence Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>) is a fundamental element in creating and sustaining a safer campus environment for all community members. We understand that sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and we encourage students who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need. The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email ([svsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:svsa@ucalgary.ca)) or phone at [403-220-2208](tel:403-220-2208).
- d. **Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under [Section K](#). Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties. Examples of academic misconduct may include: submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; collaborating in whole or in part without prior agreement of the instructor; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's approval; falsification/ fabrication of experimental values in a report. **These are only examples.**
- e. **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).
- f. **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the procedure for accommodations for students with disabilities available at [procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf](#).  
  
Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head, Undergraduate of the Department of Biological Sciences, Heather Addy by email [addy@ucalgary.ca](mailto:addy@ucalgary.ca) or phone 403 220-6979. Religious accommodation requests relating to class, test or exam scheduling or absences must be submitted no later than **14 days** prior to the date in question. See [Section E.4](#) of the University Calendar.
- g. **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (See the [Campus Safewalk](#) website). Call [403-220-5333](tel:403-220-5333) for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- h. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP). Students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information, see [Legal Services](#) website.
- i. **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#), Phone: [403-220-3911](tel:403-220-3911) Email: [suvpaca@ucalgary.ca](mailto:suvpaca@ucalgary.ca). SU Faculty Rep., Phone: [403-220-3913](tel:403-220-3913) Email: [sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca). [Student Ombudsman](#), Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca).
- j. **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** Unless instructed otherwise, cell phones should be turned off during class. All communication with other individuals via laptop, tablet, smart phone or other device is prohibited during class unless specifically permitted by the instructor. Students that violate this policy may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated violations may result in a charge of misconduct.

- k. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.
- l. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.

## **ECOLOGY 425 - LECTURE TOPICS AND SCHEDULE**

### Dr. John R. Post (first half of course)

Aims and objectives of course, lecture and lab schedules and assignments  
Models in Ecology - 12 lectures  
Maximum Likelihood and Model Selection - 5 lectures

### Ms. Stephanie Mogensen (second half of course)

Introduction to linear models  
Estimation, hypothesis tests for linear models  
Interaction terms, model simplification  
Hierarchical models; fixed vs. random effects; shrinkage estimators  
Generalized linear models  
Nuisance variables, nested designs

## **LABORATORY ASSIGNMENTS AND SCHEDULE**

Modelling & Model Selection (20 marks)

Sep 12,19,26  
Oct 3,10,17

Linear models (20 marks)

Oct 24, 31  
Nov 7,14,21, 28

### **Course Outcomes:**

- Contrast and identify empirical and mechanistic models
- Explain the analysis of steady-state and dynamic behavior using graphical and mathematical techniques
- Develop simple compartment models, identify functions parameters in state variables and write corresponding coupled differential equations
- Critically evaluate the logical model structure using dimension analysis
- Use least-squares and maximum-likelihood methods for parameter estimation and frequentist and information-theoretic methods for hypothesis testing and model selection
- Appreciate fundamental concepts of study design and implement them in the construction of effective designs given specific hypotheses
- Identify general or generalized linear models that respect specific study designs and data characteristics
- Correctly analyze general and generalized linear models to test biological hypotheses
- Interpret the biological meaning of statistical results

Department Approval:

Electronically Approved

Date: 2019-08-16 10:59

Associate Dean's Approval for out of  
regular class-time activity:

Electronically Approved

Date: 2019-08-16 12:17