



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course: ECOLOGY 501 – ECOLOGICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY APPLICATIONS**

Lab Section: B01 R 12:30-15:15 SA 123 WINTER 2015
Instructor(s): Dr. J. Vamosi BI 482 210-9594 jvamosi@ucalgary.ca (Course Coordinator)
Dr. D. Layzell BI 473 220-5161 dlayzell@ucalgary.ca

Biological Sciences Department BI 186: (403) 220-3140; biosci@ucalgary.ca

2. **PREREQUISITE(S):** Ecology 425, 429, and one of 417 or 419; and completion of at least 12.5 full-course equivalents. See section 3.5.C in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sc-3-5.html>)

NOTE: Prior or concurrent completion of Biology 401, Ecology 419 and 439 is strongly recommended. Ecology 501 is intended to draw on experience gained throughout the Ecology program, and should be taken by students in the final year of the program.

3. **Grading:** The University policy on grading and related matters is described sections F.1 and F.2 of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Module 1	Final Paper	30%	Module 2	Final Paper	30%
Module 1	Presentations (To Be Scheduled)	15%	Module 2	Presentations (To Be Scheduled)	15%
Module 1	Participation	5%	Module 2	Participation	5%

There will not be a final examination scheduled by the Registrar.

Each piece of work submitted by the student will be assigned a percentage score. The student's average percentage score for the various components 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.

4. **Missed Components of Term Work:** 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 himself/herself with these regulations. See also [Section E.6](#) of the University Calendar
5. **Scheduled out-of-class activities:** Dates and times of approved class activities held outside of class hours. N/A

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES HAVE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OUT-OF-CLASS-TIME-ACTIVITY. If you have a clash with this out-of-class-time-activity, please inform your instructor as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements may be made for you.

6. **Course Materials:** N/A

Online Course Components: This course will involve the use of freeware online tools, such as those offered through RAXML and Genbank. Class time will be given to learn the basics of this online software.

7. **Examination Policy:** Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations. N/A
8. **Writing across the curriculum statement:** e.g. "In this course, the quality of the student's writing in laboratory reports will be a factor in the evaluation of those reports." See also [Section E.2](#) of the University Calendar.
9. **Human studies statement:** indicating whether students in the course may be expected to participate as subjects or researchers. See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

STUDIES IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES INVOLVE THE USE OF LIVING AND DEAD ORGANISMS. Students are expected to be familiar with <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sc-5-1.html> of the on-line calendar.

See also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-5.html>.

10. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS:

- (a) **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.
- (b) **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).
- (c) **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students with documentable disabilities are referred to the following links: Students with Disabilities: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-1.html#B.1> and Student Accessibility Services: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/>.
- (d) **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>). Call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.
- (e) **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). As one consequence, 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 also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.
- (f) **Student Union Information:** VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca.
SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 Email: sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca; [Student Ombudsman](#)
- (g) **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** You can assume that in all classes that you attend, your cell phone should be turned off unless instructed otherwise. Also, communication with other individuals, via laptop computers, Blackberries or other devices connectable to the Internet is not allowed in class time unless specifically permitted by the instructor. If you violate this policy you may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct.
- (h) **U.S.R.I.:** At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys.

Department Approval _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____ Date _____

Department Approval
For NO Final Exam: _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____ Date: _____
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Ecol 501 - **Ecological and Evolutionary Applications**

Winter 2015

DRAFT Schedule

Week				Topic
1	JV	Jan	15	Intro to phylogenetics, project selection
2	JV	Jan	22	Analyses
3	JV	Jan	29	Discussions and updates
4	JV	Feb	5	Analyses
5	JV	Feb	12	Analyses and writing
	JV	Feb	19	<i>Reading week</i>
6		Feb	26	Final Presentations and report submission
7		Mar	5	Intro to project topic (Energy flows through managed biological systems); Subproject selection
9	DL	Mar	12	Data collection and research planning
10	DL	Mar	19	Analysis and modeling
11	DL	Mar	26	Analysis, presentation and interpretation of results
12	DL	Apr	2	Analyses and writing
13	DL	Apr	9	Final presentations and report submission

GRADE CUTOFFS

86%	A
80%	A-
77%	B+
74%	B
70%	B-
67%	C+
64%	C
60%	C-
55%	D+
50%	D
<50%	F