

Introductory Ecology – BIO 262
University of Rhode Island – Summer Session I 2020
Dr. Scott Rubren

Lecture	Date	Topic	Readings
1	May 18	Course introduction – Science of ecology Ecology of individuals on land and water	Chapters 1-5
2	20	Ecology and the environment	Chapters 1-5
3	25	Evolution, ecology and populations (Sakai resources and assignment)	Chapters 6-8
4	27	(FRIDAY) Population ecology continued, project and exam review (Library Summary due – <u>via Sakai</u>)	Chapters 8-10
5	June 1	Exam I (lectures 1-4)	
6	3	Community ecology and interactions (Project topic and outline due – <u>via Sakai</u>)	Chapters 11-18
7	8	Community to ecosystem ecology	Chapters 17-21
8	10	Ecosystem and larger-scale ecology (Final Presentations – Summary document <u>via Sakai</u>)	Chapters 20-24
9	15	Large-scale ecology (Final Presentation – Summary document <u>via Sakai</u>)	Chapters 22-24
10	17	Final Exam (Final is mandatory and cumulative, 75% new; 25% old)	

Course Philosophy:

This course is a broad introduction to the broad subject known as ecology, a discipline that draws on many subjects. It is expected that you have had basic biology. *Introductory Ecology* is a lecture-based course supplemented with short writing assignments and discussion topics. Examinations will test for knowledge from lectures and readings and the ability to synthesize facts. Please keep up with the readings and assignments; you will benefit.

Introductory Ecology – BIO 262

Course Information

Instructor: Scott Ruhren, Ph.D. e-mail: sruhren@uri.org
Department of Biological Sciences

Office Hours: By arrangement. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions during the semester but allow a reasonable amount of time for a reply. This is important for absences and exam conflicts.

Required Textbook: Cain, Bowman and Hacker. 2017. *Ecology*, Fourth (or Third) Edition. Sinauer Associates, Inc. **(We are using the loose-leaf edition.)**

Grading:

Distribution of Points		Approximate Grade Cutoffs	
Exam I	40%	≥ 90%	= A- to A
Final Exam	40%	80-89%	= B- to B
Library Summary	5%	70-79%	= C- to C
Final Project	15%	60-69%	= D- to D
Total Possible Points =	100%	< 60%	= F

Exams and Assignments: Exams will be written from lecture material unless stated otherwise. What is presented in lecture is what you will see on the exams. All exams will be mixed format (multiple choice, short answer, true/false) and are equally weighted. You will submit most assignments through the course Sakai site. If you have a planned exam or assignment conflict please contact me as soon as possible

Attendance: There are no points awarded for attendance. However, students with **two** unexcused absences will be subject to a full final grade reduction. **Documented medical illnesses, emergencies, observance of religious holidays or participation in university-sanctioned athletics or events are the only valid excuses for missing classes and deadlines.** Students are responsible for all missed notes and work. Finally, extra credit will not be available.

Academic Integrity: According to University of Rhode Island policy, “allegations of misconduct (which includes fabrication, falsification and plagiarism) in research and scholarship must promptly be reported directly to the Vice Provost for Graduate Studies, Research and Outreach.”

Special Needs: Students with documented disabilities should inform the instructor as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made. Students should also contact Disability Services for Students, Office of Student Life, 3390 Memorial Union, Kingston Campus (phone: 874-2098). All situations are confidential.

Outside Help: Success in this course requires that you keep up with the class work and study the course materials effectively. The Academic Enhancement Center on the fourth floor of Roosevelt Hall can help. Their friendly staff of learning specialists and student tutors can help you find an approach to studying that suits your needs and schedule, develop effective study strategies, understand course concepts and practice productively. The center is also a great place to go and study on your own, with space available for individuals or groups. All services are free. You can call them for complete information at 874-2367 or check www.uri.edu/aec.

Electronic Equipment: The use of personal electronic equipment (e.g. cell phones, laptops and PDAs) is not permitted during lectures and exams without prior approval. Please silence and put phones away.