



Biological Sciences

Biology 308 -- Invertebrate Zoology Course Syllabus – Spring 2014

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Catalog Description:	BSC 308 Invertebrate Zoology. This course will explore the diversity of invertebrate types, morphologically, embryologically, and physiologically. The ecological role of invertebrates will be emphasized. Prerequisite: 2 semesters of biology.
Required Text:	Pechenik, Jan A. 2004. Biology of the Invertebrates. 6th Edition. McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 0073028266
Course Objectives:	The general objective of this course is to familiarize the student with the basic concepts of invertebrate zoology. After taking this course the student should have an understanding of the following

	<p>concepts: (1) Familiarity with the invertebrate phyla; (2) Invertebrate anatomy; (3) Invertebrate natural history; (3) Collection methods; (4) Invertebrate behavior; (5) Evolution of invertebrates.</p>
<p>Student Learning Objectives:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the end of the semester the student should be able to name 70% of the major invertebrate phyla on the lab exams 2. By the end of the semester the student should be able to identify 70% of the parts of the invertebrate anatomy on the lab exams. 3. By the end of the semester the student should be able to discuss the invertebrate phyla on essay questions with a score of 7 out of 10 points.
<p>Tentative Course Outline</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction -- Read Chapters 1 and 2 • Protozoa Read Chapter 3 • Porifera Read Chapter 4 • Cnidaria & Ctenophora Read Chapters 5, 6 & 7 • Lab Exam I • Lecture Exam I • Platyhelminthes Read Chapter 8 • Nematodes & Friends Read Chapters 16 & 17 • Rotifera & Friends Read Chapter 10 • Annelida Read Chapter 13 • Lab Exam II • Lecture Exam II • Mollusca Read Chapter 12 • Arthropod Read Chapter 14 • Echinoderm Lecture -- Read Chapter 20 • Lab Exam III -- Scavenger Hunt and Specimen Collection Due • Lecture Exam III 	
<p>Evaluation:</p>	<p>Three lecture exams, each worth 100 points will be given. Make-up exams may be made available in the event that the instructor receives notification prior to the scheduled examination time. Daily quizzes are also given and averaged for a lecture grade. The average of lecture work will comprise two-thirds of your grade. Laboratory exams and other work (Specimen collections, and other assignments) will be also be given. The average of this work will comprise one-third of your grade. I will make every attempt to</p>

	<p>return your work by the next class period if possible and certainly within one week.</p> <p>*Please note: There may also be unannounced pop-quizzes (you must be in your seat at the time the pop quizzes are handed out in order to take them), possibly some homework assignments and/or a class project, <i>journals</i>, and take-home exams. Your grade on late work may be reduced by 10 points per day.</p>
Grading Scale:	<p>> 90% = A 80% - <90% = B 70% - <80% = C 60% - <70% = D <60% = F</p>
Make-up exams:	<p>Any make-up lecture exams will be given only with a valid <i>University</i> excuse (documentation) for missing a regularly scheduled major exam; they may be of the essay type and scheduled at the earliest possible time following the absence. It is the responsibility of the student to inquire as to the procedure for making up an exam. The student is advised to report to me ASAP for instructions on taking the make-up exam. No exemptions/exceptions. A grade of zero (0) will be recorded if the make-up is not taken in a timely manner. There are no make-ups on pop-quizzes, other class assignments, or lab exams.</p>
Late Work:	<p>Work turned in after the deadline will be penalized at deduction of 10% per day.</p>
Academic Integrity:	<p>Academic honesty is expected of students enrolled in this course. Cheating on examinations, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of research data, plagiarism, and undocumented use of materials from any source constitute academic dishonesty and may be grounds for a grade of 'F' in the course and/or disciplinary actions. For additional information, see the university catalog. Additional information on plagiarism can be found at http://www.turnitin.com/research_site/e_what_is_plagiarism.html</p>
University Drop Policy:	<p>To drop this course after the census date (see semester calendar), a student must complete the Drop/Withdrawal Request Form, located on the University website http://tamut.edu/Registrar/droppingwithdrawing-from-classes.html) or obtained in the Registrar's Office. The student must submit the signed and completed form to the instructor of each course indicated on the form to be dropped for his/her signature. The signature is not an "approval" to drop, but rather confirmation that the student has discussed the drop/withdrawal with the faculty member. The form must be submitted to the Registrar's office for processing in person, email Registrar@tamut.edu, mail (7101 University Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503) or fax (903-223-3140). Drop/withdraw forms missing any of the required information will not be accepted by the Registrar's Office for processing. It is the</p>

	<p>student's responsibility to ensure that the form is completed properly before submission. If a student stops participating in class (attending and submitting assignments) but does not complete and submit the drop/withdrawal form, a final grade based on work completed as outlined in the syllabus will be assigned.</p>
Disability Accommodations:	<p>Students with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations through the A&M-Textarkana Disability Services Office by calling 903-223-3062.</p>
Classroom Protocol:	<p>Informal (professional) class participation is always welcome. Please do not make comments that are off the subject or that impede the progress of the class. If a student's behavior is such that it disturbs the learning process of others or shows outright disrespect for the instructor, the instructor will request the student to cease the disruptive behavior. Please refrain from talking, whispering, or other negative behaviors that might distract the instructor or colleagues. If a student continues to be disruptive, the instructor may request they leave the classroom for the remainder of the period and visit an appropriate TAMU-T administrator. Students may be expelled from the course for inappropriate behavior. Please try to remain in your seat during lecture unless there is an emergency. <u>No cell-phone or beeper is allowed during class.</u> Thanks!</p>
Class Attendance:	<p>Students who come to class make better grades than those who do not. It is important not to miss class. I take roll at the beginning of class. If you are not in your seat at that time you will be counted absent.</p>
Tips:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Come to class and pay attention. 2. Don't just sit there, take notes. <p>Here are some of the reasons why you should be taking notes for yourself. The practice of note-taking develops several important skills—starting with listening. You can't take notes if you aren't listening. You need to be able to take decent notes because in most professional contexts, indeed in life, you are regularly in situations that require taking in and processing information that you need to remember and later apply. You can't always be asking people to give you a copy of what they just told you.</p> <p>Beyond being an essential basic skill, note-taking offers you the opportunity to make the material your own. That doesn't involve making it mean whatever you want it to mean, but it does allow you to interact with it in ways that develop your understanding of it. Now, this doesn't happen when you equate note-taking with stenography and copy down exactly what the teacher says, and it doesn't happen</p>

	<p>when you recopy their notes and think that's studying. But it does happen when you work on and with your notes— when you put definitions into your own works, when you list relevant pages in the text, when you re-order the material so that it better connects with your knowledge, and when you write summaries and relate details to main points. (Weimer, 2013)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Ask questions when you do not understand. 4. Read the chapters in your text. 5. Review your notes daily. The experts say that in order to master course content you need to spend 2-3 hours of study for every hour you are in class. 6. Check Blackboard often and use the resources provided. 7. Check your ace mail daily.
<p>A&M-Texarkana Email Address:</p>	<p>Upon application to Texas A&M University-Texarkana an individual will be assigned an A&M-Texarkana email account. This email account will be used to deliver official university correspondence. Each individual is responsible for information sent and received via the university email account and is expected to check the official A&M-Texarkana email account on a frequent and consistent basis. Faculty and students are required to utilize the university email account when communicating about coursework.</p>
<p>Student Technical Assistance:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Technical Assistance Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solutions to common problems and FAQ's for your web-enhanced and web courses are found at this link: http://www.tamut.edu/Training/Student%20Training/index.html • If you cannot find your resolution there, you can send in a support request detailing your specific problem here: http://www.tamut.edu/techde/support.htm • Blackboard Helpdesk contacts (office hours are: Monday - Friday, 8:00a to 5:00p) <p style="text-align: center;"> Julia Allen (main contact) 903-223-3154 julia.allen@tamut.edu Nikki Thomson (alternate) 903-223-3083 nikki.thomson@tamut.edu Jayson Ferguson (alternate) 903-223-3105 jayson.ferguson@tamut.edu </p> <p style="text-align: center;">Technical Requirements:</p>

Minimum Windows PC Requirements:

- Pentium IV 1.5GHz+ (preferred: Core Duo)
- 1 GB RAM minimum (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum - Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Windows 2000, XP, Vista or 7
- Web browser (Internet Explorer 7.0+; Firefox 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10 +, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment (Java 1.6.0_15), Windows Media Player 10+, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave.

Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended)

Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Windows Operating Systems:

- Internet Explorer 8 or 9 (IE is not supported on Windows XP)
- Mozilla Firefox 3.6+
- Google Chrome

Minimum Apple Macintosh Requirements:

- Intel Core 2.0GHz+
- 1 GB RAM (preferred: 2 GB)
- 128MB Video Card minimum - Sound Card is required for some courses
- 56K modem minimum (Cable or DSL required for some courses)
- Web browser (Firefox 3.0+ ; Safari 3.0+)
- Microsoft Word, minimum Office 97

Some courses will need plug-ins such as Flash player 10+, QuickTime player 7.0+, Adobe Reader 9.0+, Java Runtime Environment, RealPlayer, and Macromedia/Adobe Shockwave.

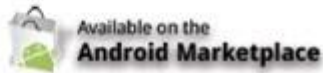
Some online courses may also require a CD ROM (8x minimum, higher recommended)

Blackboard has certified the following browsers for computers running Macintosh Operating Systems:

- Mac OS 10.2 (Jaguar): (Safari 1 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.3 (Panther): Safari 1.2 (Firefox 1.5 is compatible)
- Mac OS 10.4 (Tiger): Safari 2 and Firefox 1.5
- Mac OS 10.5 (Leopard): (Firefox 2.0 is compatible)

I-OS and Android Devices

These devices are currently supported using the Blackboard Mobile App, available for free from your App Store or scan the code below:



To access Texas A&M University - Texarkana, there is an individual license fee of \$1.99 per year or \$5.99 lifetime. This fee gives you access to the university from all your (same platform) devices; it is not necessary to pay the fee for each device you own.

Any pregnant students, or students planning to become pregnant, should consult their health care provider to determine what, if any, additional precautions are needed based on their individual situation. It is the responsibility of the student to communicate their needs to the Director of Student Life as soon as possible in order for risk-reduction to begin when it can be most effective, and to determine if additional modifications are necessary. While the university cannot mandate that the student notify it that she is pregnant or is planning to become pregnant, the university strongly recommends that students do provide notification so appropriate steps can be taken to ensure the health of both parent and child. To communicate health circumstances or to request additional information, please contact the Director of Student Life.

Note:

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus as necessary.

RATING SCALE FOR ESSAY QUESTIONS

Letter Grade = A Points = 90%-100% credit. The answer shows a superior understanding of the topic. The written response: (1) presents factors of central significance and explains them with substantial factual detail; (2) clearly shows how these factors operate; (3) has structure and mechanics which serve content.

Letter Grade = B Points = 80% credit. The answer demonstrates an accurate grasp of the topic. The response: (1) presents important factors and explains them with appropriate specifics; (2) shows less detailed knowledge and less synthesis than the A response; (3) has structure and mechanics which usually serve content.

Letter Grade = C Points = 70% credit. The answer demonstrates an acceptable but commonplace understanding of the topic. The response: (1) presents important factors but explains them with only the most obvious specifics; (2) delineates only the most obvious implications; (3) has structure and mechanics which may cause the reader minor distractions.

Letter Grade = D Points = 60% credit. The answer demonstrates only limited understanding or a partial misunderstanding of the topic. The response: (1) may use unimportant factors or may explain important factors or their significance with little coherence or specificity; (2) may make a number of serious factual errors; (3) has structure and mechanics which sometime impede the reader's understanding.

Letter Grade = F Points = <60% credit. The answer demonstrates little or no grasp of the topic. The response: (1) may significantly misstate facts or misinterpret them; (2) may fail to completely justify the choice of factors; (3) may be a string of generalizations without specifics or specifics without generalizations; (4) has structure and mechanics which may cause the reader significant difficulty.

EXAMINATION SYMBOLS

Gr grammatical mistake
V vague
PO poor organization
Inc. incomplete
X wrong
D too much detail
Irr irrelevant

Con confused
Awk awkward wording
WQ wrong question
ID insufficient detail
Sp spelling error
R redundant