



CAMOSUN COLLEGE
School of Arts & Science
Department of Biology

BIOL-228-D01 A/B
Ecology
Fall 2020

COURSE OUTLINE

The course description is online @ <http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/web/biol.html>

☐ Please note: This outline will not be kept indefinitely. It is recommended students keep this outline for their records, especially to assist in transfer credit to post-secondary institutions.

1. Instructor Information

(a) Instructor	Sarah Cockburn
(b) Office hours	TBA - Please look on D2L for current office hours
(c) Location	Online on D2L (in Collaborate)
(d) Phone	n/a
(e) E-mail	cockburns@camosun.bc.ca
(f) Website	http://online.camosun.ca (log in to D2L to access this course)

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Define Ecology and employ the scientific method by applying appropriate sampling techniques and data analyses to appraise suitable ecological questions.
2. Differentiate between autecology, population, community and ecosystem. Explain and criticize key concepts and models appropriate to these levels of inquiry.
3. Integrate and synthesize ecological concepts predicting organism abundance and distribution, recommending strategies for management and conservation and evaluating the long-term stability of ecological systems.

3. Required Materials

(a) **Textbooks:**

Recommended/optional material (not required) Bowman, W.D, & Hacker, S.D (2021) Ecology Fifth Edition. New York, USA, Oxford University Press.

(b) **Lab Manual:**

Lab instructions and related assignments will be posted on D2L prior to each scheduled lab.

(c) **Lecture Resources:**

Lectures are based on PowerPoint slides and will be delivered online. The slides will be posted on the course D2L website, along with additional resources for review and activities to complete.

4. Course Content and Schedule

(Please see last page for detailed schedule)

Class Schedule: All lectures and labs will be online.

Lecture: D01A/B Tuesday 10:30am-11:50 am

Labs: D01A Monday 1:30pm-4:20 pm
 D01B Monday 9:30pm-12:20 pm

5. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) **Lecture Exams**

Midterm I	12%
Midterm II	12%
Final Exam	20%

(b) **Lab Exams**

Lab Quiz I	7%
Lab Quiz II	7%

(c) **Assignments/Participation**

Lecture Assignments	14%
Lab Assignments	20%
Activities/Participation	2%
Final Lab Project	6%

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Competency Based Grading System

7. Grading System Recommended Materials to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course.

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services, or the College website at camosun.ca.

Plagiarism

Plagiarizing is appropriating the work or parts or passages of another's writing (including the ideas or language) and passing them off as the product of one's own mind or manual skill (see <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.1.pdf>).

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism, **including the copying of any part of assignments**, is a serious offence and is considered to be academic misconduct. In some cases, the instructor may prefer an assignment to be written as a group. In such cases, handing in one assignment for the group will be acceptable. Otherwise, lecture and lab assignments handed in by individuals are expected to be individually prepared.

Cheating

A student caught cheating on an exam will at minimum forfeit all credit for that exam. Cheating is a serious offence and is considered to be academic misconduct. **Cheating includes, but is not limited to, using unauthorized materials in a quiz/exam and providing information to another person regarding exam content.**

The consequences for cheating and plagiarism are outlined by Camosun College policies (see <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf>) and penalties may be severe.

Attendance

Although this course is delivered in an online format, when applicable it is expected that you will "virtually" attend and participate in lectures and labs. If you have to miss a lecture or lab, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and get caught up. For the most part, each chapter and lab has a follow-up assignment or activity to be completed; the due date for each assignment will be clearly marked on D2L. Please contact the instructor and/or your classmates if you require assistance getting caught up.

Missed Exams

Without exception, all lecture and lab exams must be written at the scheduled times. However, it is understood that emergency circumstances occur (e.g. severe illness or emergency in the immediate family); for such circumstances accommodation may be offered at the discretion of the instructor, provided the student: (a) notifies the instructor **in advance** of the exam (not after), and (b) provides documented evidence of the circumstance is applicable.

In the event of emergency circumstances, it is at the instructor's discretion whether to administer a make-up exam or adjust the weighting of the final exam to make up the missing marks. Note that work commitments or holiday travel are NOT considered emergency circumstances. Be sure not to make any travel plans for the end of the semester under the final exam schedules are finalized and posted.

Assignments

There will be many lecture and lab assignments throughout the course. It is the student's responsibility to be informed of any work expected and the dates the work is due. Some course assignments will be group work; most course assignments will be individual work. When submitting your own individual assignment, be sure that it is your own work (keeping in mind student conduct requirements). This applies even if you are working with a study group! I do encourage you to study and work with other students, but the work you submit must still be your own. For group assignments, each person in a group will receive the same mark on any group work. Please submit assignments in the format requested by the instructor. Incorrect formatting will result in late penalties and delayed grading.

On most D2L quiz assignments you will be given 2 attempts and an average of the 2 scores will be recorded.

Late Penalties

All assignments must be submitted in on or before the specified due date and time. If you experience technical difficulties in submitting assignments, please contact the instructor right away. Late assignments will be graded but marks equivalent to **10%** of the total value of the assignment will be deducted for each day past the deadline, including weekends. Late assignments will not be accepted once marked assignments have been returned to the class.

Note: There is the option of 1 free late assignment. There will be no penalty provided the assignment is received prior to it being marked and returned to the class. Any assignment received after its return to the rest of the class will be marked but will not receive credit.

Study Habits

Good (and regular!!) study habits are required to do well in this course. You should plan on spending several hours per week outside of scheduled class time for the completion of assignments and for general studying. Online study groups can help make this more fun (e.g. Zoom, Skype, Discord).

Lecture notes will be posted on D2L in point form. These should be used as a study guide, in addition to additional material that is provided. You will need to write down additional notes for examples and explanations given during online lectures. It is also recommended to transcribe these notes into a study-friendly format after each lecture. Study these notes before the next class to prepare yourself for new material, which will often build on previously covered material.

These course expectations and policies will be discussed during the first week of classes. If you have any further questions, please contact the instructor.

8. College Supports, Services and Policies



Immediate, Urgent, or Emergency Support

If you or someone you know requires immediate, urgent, or emergency support (e.g. illness, injury, thoughts of suicide, sexual assault, etc.), **SEEK HELP**. Resource contacts @ <http://camosun.ca/about/mental-health/emergency.html> or <http://camosun.ca/services/sexual-violence/get-support.html#urgent>

College Services

Camosun offers a variety of health and academic support services, including counselling, dental, disability resource centre, help centre, learning skills, sexual violence support & education, library, and writing centre. For more information on each of these services, visit the **STUDENT SERVICES** link on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/>

College Policies

Camosun strives to provide clear, transparent, and easily accessible policies that exemplify the college's commitment to life-changing learning. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of College policies. Policies are available on the College website at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/>. Education and academic policies include, but are not limited to, Academic Progress, Admission, Course Withdrawals, Standards for Awarding Credentials, Involuntary Health and Safety Leave of Absence, Prior Learning Assessment, Medical/Compassionate Withdrawal, Sexual Violence and Misconduct, Student Ancillary Fees, Student Appeals, Student Conduct, and Student Penalties and Fines.

A. GRADING SYSTEMS <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html>

The following two grading systems are used at Camosun College:

1. Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D		1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

2. Competency Based Grading System (Non GPA)

This grading system is based on satisfactory acquisition of defined skills or successful completion of the course learning outcomes

Grade	Description
COM	The student has met the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
DST	The student has met and exceeded, above and beyond expectation, the goals, criteria, or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.
NC	The student has not met the goals, criteria or competencies established for this course, practicum or field placement.

B. Temporary Grades

Temporary grades are assigned for specific circumstances and will convert to a final grade according to the grading scheme being used in the course. See Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/index.html> for information on conversion to final grades, and for additional information on student record and transcript notations.

Temporary Grade	Description
I	<i>Incomplete</i> : A temporary grade assigned when the requirements of a course have not yet been completed due to hardship or extenuating circumstances, such as illness or death in the family.
IP	<i>In progress</i> : A temporary grade assigned for courses that are designed to have an anticipated enrollment that extends beyond one term. No more than two IP grades will be assigned for the same course.
CW	<i>Compulsory Withdrawal</i> : A temporary grade assigned by a Dean when an instructor, after documenting the prescriptive strategies applied and consulting with peers, deems that a student is unsafe to self or others and must be removed from the lab, practicum, worksite, or field placement.

The schedule, which follows, is an attempt to outline the weekly activities of the class. It is subject to change or modification as the need arises

Week	Lecture Topic	Ch.	Laboratory Exercise
1-Sept 8-11 College Closed Sept 7 Labour Day	The Web of life	1	1. No Lab (Labour day holiday)
2- Sept 14-18	Organisms and their Environment Evolution and Ecology	3,4 6	2. Basic Statistics Exercise and Excel
3- Sept 21-25	Life History	7	3. Lab stimulation: Understanding Experimental Design (SimBio) and time for research lab project
4- Sept 28-Oct 2	Behavioural Ecology	8	4. Germination Set up and Research Project Draft Due
5- Oct 5-Oct 9	MID-TERM I (Oct 6) Population Distribution and Abundance	9	5. Mark Recapture
6- Oct 13-16 College closed Oct 12 Thanksgiving	Population Dynamics	10	6. Time for Research Project
7- Oct 19-23	Population Growth and Regulation	11	7. Lab Quiz I (Oct 19th) and Germination Lab
8- Oct 26-30	Predation	12	8. Order Distance Lab
9- Nov 2-6	Parasitism	13	9. Lab stimulation: Isle Royal Lab (SimBio)
10- Nov 9-13 <i>College closed Nov 11 Remembrance Day</i>	MID-TERM II (Nov 10) Competition	14	10. Population Growth Lab
11- Nov 16-20	Mutualism and Commensalism	15	11. Time for Research Project
12- Nov 23-27	The Nature of Communities Change in Communities	16	12. Nutrient Pollution Lab
13- Nov 30-Dec 4	Food Webs	21	13. Research Project Due
14- Dec 7-11	Conservation/Climate Change	23	14. Lab Quiz II (Dec 7th)