

BIOB52H3Y 2020

Laboratory in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

OBJECTIVES:

- Explore selected concepts in ecology and evolutionary biology
- Experience field techniques and an appreciation for fieldwork
- Use computers for ecological and evolutionary analysis
- Improve your literature search and reading skills
- Improve your scientific writing skills
- Improve your ability to think critically, about both data and experiments

CALENDAR DETAILS:

- Prerequisite: BIOA01H3 & BIOA02H3
- Corequisite: BIOB50H3 or BIOB51H3

SCHEDULE:

- An online laboratory **every week** (with some exceptions)
- A one hour online lecture per week
- Quercus: You are responsible for checking the Quercus page for this course frequently.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Your B52 team,

- Lecturer: Karolyn Keir
- TA: Sara Campbell

EMAIL POLICY:

- Before emailing, please check information posted for the course on Quercus. We may have already answered your question there.
- For lab related questions, please start by emailing your TA.
- For other matters, please email the instructor.
- When you email, include a subject line that includes "BIOB52" and that summarizes your question.
- We will attempt to reply to your emails within 2/3 days.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- All office hours will be conducted remotely.
- Sara Campbell
Office hours: TBD (Please see Quercus)
Email: sarae.campbell@mail.utoronto.ca
- Karolyn Keir
Please contact by email at karolyn.keir@utoronto.ca
Emails will be responded to within 24 hours, except on weekends or holidays

Simulated Labs and Interactive Textbook

- You are responsible for purchasing the BIO52 SimBio package that included simulated labs, as well as interactive textbook chapters from the UTSC bookstore.
- Other lab materials will be posted on Quercus. Lab materials will be available approximately one week before the relevant lab. Some lab materials will also include pdfs of primary literature, or references to primary literature. You are responsible for reading all provided material.

EVALUATION

This is a laboratory course, so there are no mid-terms and no final exam. Instead, evaluation will be via:

Assignments and Quizzes relating to Lectures and Laboratory Simulations (8 x 3% = 24%):

*****All write-ups will be submitted electronically through Quercus. Late assignments will be penalized at 10%/day. No assignments will be accepted 5 days after due date.*****

You will be required to listen to lectures, complete assigned readings, complete activities in interactive textbook chapters and perform simulated lab exercises. To test your comprehension of these activities you will be assigned a number of tasks to be completed online. These may come in the form of a timed quiz, assigned questions, or mini lab write up. More information regarding the details and due dates for these will be posted on Quercus.

Writing Assignments:

*****All write-ups will be submitted electronically through Quercus. Late assignments will be penalized at 10%/day, with the exception of the Major Lab Report. No assignments will be accepted 5 days after due date.*****

Get to Know A Greenspace (7%):

You will be responsible for identifying a green space (park, forest, backyard etc.) that you will use as your study area for your independent research project. You will be required to visit this space on a regular basis so please choose one that is in close proximity to your residence and remember to follow all provincial and municipal COVID-19 guidelines as to how you are to visit these spaces at this time. Please note that these guidelines may change through the course of the semester and it is your responsibility to keep up-to-date on these changes.

You will need to submit a 3-5 page description of your greenspace by **Friday, June 5, 2020 at 5pm**. More details as to what should be included in this description will be posted on Quercus.

Independent Research Project Proposal (8%):

You will be required to submit a 5-7 page research proposal aimed at answering a research question that you are interested in answering for your Independent Research Project. This proposal will consist on an introduction, background, and details of proposed research. This will be due on **Friday, June 19, 2020 at 5pm**.

Major Lab Report Independent Research Project (25%):

This will involve a full write up (title, abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion) of your Independent Research Project. You will be responsible for all aspects of this project, data collection, data analysis, and presentation of results in the form of a lab report. All information from external sources must be cited and reference properly. This lab report will be approximately 10-15 pages in length. **This will be due on Friday, August 14, 2020. As this is the last day of classes, late assignments cannot be accepted.** More details will be posted on Quercus

Other:

Plant Scavenger Hunt Assignment (16%):

*****Plant Scavenger Hunt will be submitted electronically through Quercus. Late assignments will be penalized at 10%/day. No assignments will be accepted 5 days after due date.*****

This will involve locating and photographing 20 different plant specimens. **This will be due on Friday, August 7, 2020 at 5pm.** More details will be posted on Quercus.

Presentation of Independent Research Project (10%):

*****Presentations will be submitted electronically through Quercus. Late assignments will not be accepted.*****

As a complement to your major lab report, you will be responsible for presenting your research in the form of a 15-20 slide PowerPoint presentation. You will submit your presentation, complete with voice over on **Monday, August 10, 2020 at 5pm.** The presentations will be viewed by the class during the final laboratory time on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, giving the class the opportunity to ask questions and for you to respond. Your grade will be assigned based on the quality and completeness of your presentation, the questions that you ask of your peers, and the responses that you provide to the questions asked of you.

Participation (10%):

Participation mark will be determined by your active participation in the discussion board on Quercus. These discussions will be focused on assigned readings, and other extensions of lecture and lab topics.

For missed labs or term work:

You are expected to complete all labs and view all lectures in this course. If you are ill, and require accommodation as a result of your illness, please follow these instructions. Please note that you are only able to be excused from two labs owing to a documented illness.

If you are ill during the term, and this illness influences your ability to meet a deadline for submission of a term assignment, rather than submitting a Verification of Student Illness form in your request for accommodation you can submit a Self-Declaration of Student Illness form, indicating the days in which you were ill. This form is meant to take the place of the more typical medical form, and will be available on the main page of the department's website www.utsc.utoronto.ca/biosci.

Please note the following aspects related to this Self-Declaration of Student Illness form:

1. Similar to the submission of a medical form, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE** for contacting the professor for this course to make arrangements for an accommodation for this work.
2. You may use the Self-Declaration of Student Illness form **ONLY for term assignments**.
3. You may use the Self-Declaration of Student Illness form only two times in this course. If you require an additional accommodation for a term assignment, you must then use the standard Verification of Student Illness form.
4. *Submitting a false Self-Declaration of Student Illness form constitutes academic misconduct, and could be subject to sanctions under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.*

Please submit any Self-Declaration of Student Illness forms in the same fashion as you would have a previous Verification of Student Illness form. Accordingly, you will need to submit this form to Jennifer Campbell, Course Coordinator **within three days of the missed term work**.

Please ensure you consult the course syllabus for policies and procedures regarding missed term work and possible accommodations. Once you have submitted the Self Declaration form or UTSC medical certificate to the instructor, you will be given instructions on what accommodations (if any) you will have. **Accommodation for your absence will most likely be that data will be provided to you so that you can complete the required assignments. Assignments will not be reweighted in BIOB52.**

Marks will be assigned as follows:

	Number	Value for each	Percent of total
Assignments and Quizzes relating to Lectures and Laboratory Simulations	8	3%	24%
Get to Know A Greenspace	1	7%	7%
Independent Research Project Proposal	1	8%	8%
Major Lab Report Independent Research Project	1	25%	25%
Presentation of Independent Research Project	1	10%	10%
Plant Scavenger Hunt Assignment	1	15%	16%
Participation			10%
Total			100%

Late Reports:

Handing in reports after the deadline (the start of the indicated lab) will result in a deduction of 10% per day.

AccessAbility Statement:

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the AccessAbility Services as soon as possible.

AccessAbility Services staff (located in Rm SW302, Science Wing) are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations 416-287-7560 or email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

Academic Integrity Statement:

The University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences.

Potential offences in papers and assignments include using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement, submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor, making up sources or facts, obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment.

On tests and exams cheating includes using or possessing unauthorized aids, looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test, misrepresenting your identity, or falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

Turnitin Statement:

Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site.