BIOB52H3Y 2021
Laboratory in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

This course will be delivered entirely online.

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 each week, pre-recorded and uploaded on Tuesdays
- Quercus: You are responsible for checking the Quercus page for this course frequently.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
Your B52 team:
- Lecturer: Joanna Zigouris
- TA: JP Fontenelle

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 AND OFFICE HOURS:

- All office hours will be conducted remotely.

- JP Fontenelle
  Virtual Office hours: TBD (Please see Quercus) / by appointment
  Email: jp.fontenelle@mail.utoronto.ca

- Joanna Zigouris
  Virtual Office hours: 12:00 - 1:00 PM Tuesdays / by appointment
  Email: joanna.zigouris@utoronto.ca

SIMULATED LABS AND INTERACTIVE TEXTBOOK:

- You are responsible for purchasing the BIOB52 SimBio package that includes simulated labs, as well as interactive textbook chapters from the UTSC bookstore.

- Other lab materials will be posted on Quercus. Some lab materials may also include pdfs of primary literature, or references to primary literature. You are responsible for reading all provided material.

BIOB52H3F 2021 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 (7 x 3% = 21%):
*** All write-ups will be submitted electronically through Quercus and/or SimBio. Late assignments will be penalized at 10%/day (including weekends). No assignments will be accepted 2 days after due date by 11:59 PM. ***
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 (including weekends). No assignments will be accepted 2 days after due date by 11:59 PM. ***

Get to Know a Green Space (9%)
You will be responsible for identifying a green space (park, forest, nature area, etc.) that you will visit, 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 green space by **Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 11:59 PM**. More details as to what should be included in this description will be posted on Quercus.

Goldenrod Data Project (16%)
This project will be investigating the natural history and ecology of goldenrod plants and galls. Students will be provided with goldenrod and gall data collected in the nature areas of UTSC, to analyze and present 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 7-9 pages in length, including references. **This will be due on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 11:59 PM.** More details will be posted on Quercus.

Squirrel Activity Field Research Project (16%)
This is a class collaborative Field Data Project investigating various weather factors influencing Eastern Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) activity levels. Students will observe the activity of local grey squirrels across a broad range of temperature and other weather conditions (sunny/cloudy, windy/calm, dry/rainy). Students will have from the start of the semester until June 29, 2021 to collect and submit field data, which will be compiled for the group and form the

overall dataset for the study. **Students <u>are expected</u> to contribute their assigned share of the data collection by Tuesday June 29, 2021 at 11:59 PM - failure to do so will result in a grade of zero for this component.**

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 10-12 pages in length, including references. **This will be due on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 11:59 PM.** More details will be posted on Quercus.

Group Work - Research Project Proposal Poster Presentation (16%)

Students will work in groups to develop a research proposal for an assigned project topic. This proposal will consist of an introduction, background, details of the proposed research, and key references. This information will be compiled as a poster and presented as a live group presentation. Both the poster and the group presentation are each worth 8%, and students will be graded as a group.

Poster presentations will be given during the final laboratory time on **Tuesday, August 3, 2021.** The class will have the opportunity to ask questions and for your to respond. Your grade will be assigned based on the quality and completeness of your presentation and the responses that you provide to the questions asked of you. A copy of each group's presented poster is to be submitted by **Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 11:59 PM.** More details will be posted on Quercus.

Other:

Digital Herbarium Assignment (20%)

*** Your Digital Herbarium will be submitted electronically through Quercus. Late assignments will be penalized at 10%/day (including weekends). No assignments will be accepted 2 days after due date by 11:59 PM. ***

This will involve locating and photographing <u>20 different plant specimens</u>. **This will be due on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 11:59 PM.** More details will be posted on Quercus.

Participation (2%)

2% Participation mark will be determined by your active participation during Student Presentations of their Independent Research Project.

Marks will be assigned as follows:

	Number	Value for Each	Percent of Total
Assignments and Quizzes relating to Lectures and Laboratory Simulations	7	3%	21%
Get to Know A Green Space	1	9%	9%
Goldenrod Data Project	1	16%	16%
Squirrel Activity Field Research Project	1	16%	16%
Digital Herbarium Assignment	1	20%	20%
Group Work - Research Project Proposal Poster Presentation	1	16%	16%
Participation			2%
TOTAL			**100%**

Late Reports:

Handing in reports after the submission deadline (**11:59 PM** on due date) will result in a deduction of **10%** per day. **No assignments will be accepted 2 days after due date by 11:59 PM (EST).**

Students are advised not to wait until the last few minutes before the 11:59 PM submission deadline to upload their work. Experiencing any sort of computer, SimBio, Quercus, and/or wifi issues/glitches during the final minutes before the submission deadline is not a valid excuse and your submissions will be marked late. Students are also advised to double check their submitted files to ensure that the correct document was uploaded.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have saved the document in a form compatible with Microsoft Word (your file should end in .doc or .docx). It is also your responsibility to ensure that the file you are sending is not corrupted or damaged. If the file you send cannot be opened or read, the assignment will be subject to a late penalty.

Grading Concerns:

All grading questions about quizzes, assignments, etc. must be made in writing to your TA within **five days** of the marks being posted on Quercus. Your questions about grading must clearly identify your concern. After this time, no changes will be made to existing grades unless there is a calculation error. Thus, it is essential that you check your grades regularly and contact your TA within one week if you feel an error has been made or if you are unsure why you lost points. *Please note: re-grading of your assignment may result in a re-graded mark being lower than your original assigned grade.*

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 accommodated for 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 BOTH your Instructor and to Jennifer Campbell, Course Coordinator **within 48 hours 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. There will be no make-up assignments in BIOB52. Assignments will not be reweighted in BIOB52.**

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 AA142, Arts and Administration Building) 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.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following procedures outlined in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters. If you have questions or concerns about what constitutes appropriate academic behaviour or appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information on academic integrity from Dr. Zigouris or from other institutional resources (see http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/).

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.

Intellectual Property (IP):

Recording or photographing or video capture of any aspect of a university course - lecture, tutorial, seminar, lab, studio, practice session, field trip etc. – without prior approval of all involved and with written approval from the instructor is not permitted.

Students should be aware that their courses contain the IP of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Toronto.

IP includes items such as:
- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof)
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides)
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams)
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner

Sharing this IP without the IP owner's permission is a violation of IP rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Toronto for permission before uploading and sharing the IP of others (e.g., to an online repository, students, etc.).

Tentative Class Schedule:

The tentative syllabus and class schedule for the course is provided on Quercus. Some adjustments may be made as the course progresses. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus and the lecture/lab schedules as necessary throughout the term to meet course learning objectives. Any changes will be announced on Quercus and followed by the posting of updated material. You are responsible for being aware of the contents of this syllabus.