

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH**

**Course Outline - Summer 2021
Ecology [BIOB50 LEC99]
Instructor: Dr. Jeneni Thiagavel**

Course Description

I'm super excited to welcome you to BIOB50 this summer. It's a fun course where you'll get to learn about the cool interactions and connections that organisms have with each other and with their environments. By the end of our course, I hope to help you appreciate the beauty of these connections!

Description of the course (from the calendar): An introduction to the main principles of ecology, the science of the interactions of organisms with each other and with their environment. The course covers communities, population ecology, and emphasizes how ecology relates to other areas of biology, and to contemporary human and environmental issues.

Prerequisites: BIOA01H & BIOA02H

Lectures:

2 Hours per week- Online

Lectures will be pre-recorded and posted under 'Modules' on 'Quercus'. Lecture slides will be uploaded with the recording.

Lectures will be uploaded:
Tuesdays [2 hours]

I will be posting 2 separate 1 hour lectures on Tuesday (instead of one large 2 hour block)

The Teaching & Course Administration Team

Instructor: Dr. Jeneni Thiagavel
Email: jeneni.thiagavel@utoronto.ca

- All e-mails must be sent from your UofT email and must include the course code in the subject line

Email me! I love hearing from you!

All questions about general course administration should be directed to the course coordinator

- Office hours: Blackboard Collaborate on Quercus [One-on-one appointments: Fridays- *email me to set up a time to chat!*]

TAs:

Andrew Masson (AJ) -andrew.masson@mail.utoronto.ca

Juan Vargas Soto -juan.vargassoto@mail.utoronto.ca

All e-mails must be sent from your UofT email and must include the course code in the subject line.

Course Coordinator: Jennifer Campbell

Email: jacampbell@utsc.utoronto.ca

- All questions regarding course administration, course pre-requisites and exclusions, exam scheduling, conflicts & viewings, missed exams, marks verifications and any special accommodations pertaining to medical illness, AccessAbility, religious observances etc. will be addressed by the course coordinator.

Course Website:

- The main source of information for BIOB50 is Quercus [<https://q.utoronto.ca/>].
- The course syllabus, schedule, and lecture slides can be found here. Also, important information about the course including the dates and locations of exams will be posted here.

Textbook: Bowman, W.D., Hacker, S.D., Cain, M.L. Ecology. Sinauer Associates, Inc.

Assessments/ Exams

Description	Weight
Infographic Assignment	10%
Midterm Test	40%
Final Exam	50%

1. Infographic Assignment (10%)

- This is a fun assignment where you will be making an infographic on the unanticipated side effects that human actions can have on organisms.

I'll be providing you with more information about this assignment in Lecture 1

2. Midterm Test (40%)

- This test covers lectures 1-12 (inclusive)
- The midterm test will be online [Quercus]
- Date & Time: TBD by the registrar's office

3. Final Exam (50%)

- This exam will test content covered in lectures 1-24 (inclusive).
- The final exam will be online [Quercus]
- Date & Time: TBD by the registrar's office
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Missed Midterm Test/ Late Assignment:

- You will need to provide the Course Coordinator Jennifer Campbell with a UTSC medical certificate within 48 hours of a missed exam, if you wish to be considered for a potential make up exam.
- One single makeup midterm exam may be offered to students who provide significant evidence of extreme circumstances/ illness. The structure of the midterm will differ from the normal midterm, as determined by the instructor.

Missed Final Exam:

- you will need to declare your absence on ACORN and submit a petition via the registrar's office and provide them with documentation. The course instructor/ coordinator is not responsible for scheduling missed final exams.

Note that it is not sufficient to simply visit a doctor's office; the documentation must show that you were incapable of writing the test or completing the assignment on [date] for medical reasons. The medical certificate must include the statement "[Name of student] was unable to write the test on [date] for medical reasons". Documentation must show the physician was consulted within one day of the test/exam. A statement merely confirming the report of an illness made by a student is not acceptable.

Please note that the self-declaration of student illness reports cannot be used for any missed assessments in this course.

Academic Integrity

<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>

The University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters 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 and could have serious consequences for students including suspension or expulsion from the university

Accessibility Needs

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 the AccessAbility Services Office who is available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations

Phone: 416-287-7560; Email ability@utsc.utoronto.ca

Course Schedule

Week	Lecture	Topic
Week 1 May 10 – May 14	1	Introduction to the Course
	2	The Science of Ecology
Week 2 May 17 – May 21	3	Evolutionary Ecology I
	4	Evolutionary Ecology II
Week 3 May 24 – May 28	5	Predation I
	6	Predation II
Week 4 May 31 – Jun 4	7	Parasitism I
	8	Parasitism II
Week 5 Jun 7 – Jun 11	9	Mutualism I
	10	Mutualism II
Week 6 Jun 14 – Jun 18	11	Population Distribution & Abundance
	12	Population Dynamics
Jun 21 – Jun 25	Reading Week	
Week 7 Jun 28-Jul 2	13	Competition I
	14	Competition II
Week 8 Jul 5 – Jul 9	15	Competition III
	16	Communities
Week 9 Jul 12 – Jul 16	17	Species Diversity in Communities I
	18	Species Diversity in Communities II
Week 10 Jul 19 – Jul 23	19	Ecological effects of interactions on communities
	20	Behavioural Ecology
Week 11 Jul 26 – Jul 30	21	Organisms & their environment I
	22	Organisms & their environment II / Biogeography
Week 12 Aug 2 – Aug 6	23	Life History
	24	Landscape Ecology & Conservation