

BIOB52H3F 2016

Laboratory in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

OBJECTIVES:

- Explore selected concepts in ecology and evolutionary biology
- Develop a variety of lab skills and techniques
- 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:

- One four hour laboratory **every week** (SW321 on Wednesdays; either 9am-1pm or 1pm-5pm). Some labs will be held in the Bladen computer labs in rooms to be announced.
- A one hour lecture per week (MW160), Tuesday 11-12.
- Blackboard: You are responsible for checking the Blackboard page for this course frequently. Labs for the following week will be downloadable from Blackboard. Also, please check Blackboard the evening before labs and lectures for any last minute information and updates.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Your B52 team,

- Professor: Nathan Lovejoy
- TA: Katherine Balasingham
- TA: Frankie Janzen
- Lab Masters: Joanne Pearce and Daniel Yi

EMAIL POLICY:

- Before emailing, please check the Blackboard information for the course. 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:

- We can be reached in person during our office hours, or at alternate times by request (via email)
- Katherine Balasingham
Office: SW552
Office hours: Tuesday 10-11am
Email: katherine_balasingham@hotmail.com
- Frankie Janzen
Office: SW552
Office hours: Thursday 1-2pm
Email: francesco.janzen@mail.utoronto.ca
- Nathan Lovejoy
Office: SW552
Office hours: Tuesday 2-3pm
Email: lovejoy@utsc.utoronto.ca

TEXT & READINGS

- There is no text specifically for this course. Lab materials will be posted on the intranet for download. 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 **before** lab (see below).
- You are required to read designated lab material before coming to each laboratory. Some labs will start with a pre-lab quiz. These will count towards your final grade (see EVALUATION below)

EVALUATION

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

Lab quizzes:

These are given to assess whether you are fully prepared for the lab, and have understood the material. The material may consist of: (1) lecture material (usually provided in the lecture the day before the lab), (2) the instructions/description of the lab, (3) other associated readings for the lab, such as primary scientific literature, and (4) your experience carrying out the lab. Quizzes will sometimes be given at the **start** of the lab in question, and sometimes at the **end** of the lab in question (you will not know when quizzes are scheduled). If you miss the quiz, you miss the quiz (i.e., “traffic was terrible- there was an accident on the 401”, “my bus didn’t show up on time”, “I had to leave early to attend a special student event”, are not valid excuses).

Lab write-ups:

These will involve the presentation and analysis of data from the lab, and responses to questions posed in the lab handout. These will be approximately 5-10 pages in length. These are due at the start of the indicated lab. You generally have 1 or 2 weeks to complete the write-up.

Participation:

We want you to participate fully in lab exercises. This mark will be based on lab attendance and lab participation. If you miss a lab without a valid medical note, your participation mark will be reduced.

Marks will be assigned as follows:

	Number	Value for each	Percent of total
Quizzes	4	5%	20%
First lab write-up	1	15%	15%
Subsequent write-ups	3	20%	60%
Participation			5%

Late Reports:

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

Plagiarism:

NOTE: You may collaborate in evaluating the results of the labs. However, the writing of all turned in material must be your own. Thus, you may not copy from anyone’s report (or from any other source) for this year or for any other year. Plagiarism will be dealt with under the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (consult the Calendar).