

**BIOLOGY 221  
ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION  
SPRING 2016**

**Time/Place:** 9:30 AM MWF  
G15 Life Sciences Building

<b>Instructors:</b>	Dr. Bill Peterjohn	Dr. Jim McGraw
	5214 Life Sciences	5204 Life Sciences
	293-1300	293-0798
	bpj@wvu.edu	jmcgraw@wvu.edu

<b>Office hours:</b>	Dr. Peterjohn	Dr. McGraw
	1:30 - 3:00 PM MW <i>Other hours by appointment.</i>	1:30 - 3:00 PM MW (last half of semester) <i>Other hours by appointment.</i>

**Books:** The following textbook is needed for this class and is available in the bookstore:  
**Elements of Ecology by Thomas M. Smith and Robert Leo Smith (ninth edition)**

**Web Site:** Course materials can be found at the Bio. 221 web site. The address for this site is:  
<http://www.as.wvu.edu/biology/bio21site/>. Some of the documents found at this site will be password protected.  
The password to open these documents will be given in class.

**Exams:** There will be three **Wednesday evening** mid-term exams and a comprehensive final exam given in room G15 of the Life Sciences Building. The dates, locations, and times for each exam are given below along with the percentage that each component of your grade will count towards your final grade in the course. Seating will be assigned for each exam.

Exam I	Wednesday, Feb. 10	G15 LSB	7:30 - 9:30 PM	18%
Exam II	Wednesday, Mar. 9	G15 LSB	7:30 - 9:30 PM	18%
Exam III	Wednesday, Apr. 6	G15 LSB	7:30 - 9:30 PM	18%
Final Exam	Tuesday, May 3	G15 LSB	3:00 - 5:00 PM	36%
In-class Quizzes				6%
In-class Participation				<u>4%</u>
				100%

The exams will contain questions from the material covered in lecture, the textbook, assigned articles, video overviews, and assigned study questions unless otherwise noted.

**In-class Quizzes:** During the semester, about six unannounced quizzes will be given in class. The quizzes will be short (ca. 3 questions) and used to encourage and document attendance.

**In-class Participation:** Class participation will be evaluated using your responses to clicker questions. The number of points you receive will be the percentage of clicker questions that you responded to during the entire semester. Ten (10) extra responses will be added to your total before your response percentage is calculated. Your total number of responses, however, cannot exceed the total number of clicker questions asked. This allows a buffer for absences, clicker malfunctions, etc.

**Missing an exam:** If you miss an examination, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. If an exam is missed due to an **unavoidable** absence, you must present (**in person, not via email**) a convincing written statement explaining the reason for your absence **no later than 1 week after your return to class**. Your statement should note the dates missed and may include any documentation you may wish to provide. Students with an acceptable excuse (as determined by the instructors) can take a comprehensive make-up exam during the last week of the semester or have their grade prorated (i.e., each exam taken will count proportionally more). The make-up exam will be an essay exam.

**Missing a Quiz:** If you miss a quiz, you will receive a grade of zero for that quiz. If a quiz is missed due to an **unavoidable** absence, you must present (**in person, not via email**) a convincing written statement explaining the reason for your absence **no later than 1 week after your return to class**. Your statement should note the dates missed and may include any documentation you may wish to provide. Students with an acceptable excuse (as determined by the instructors) will have their quiz grades prorated (i.e., each quiz taken will count proportionally more). No make-up quizzes are given.

**Missing a clicker question:** No make-up clicker questions are given. However, you may miss up to 10 clicker questions before a missed clicker question will reduce your score for in-class participation.

**Attendance:** Attendance of all lectures is required. In cases where your grade for the course is near the cutoff value for the next highest grade, then your attendance will be used as a consideration in deciding the final grade you receive. Your attendance will be assessed using the attendance quizzes and clicker questions given during class.

**iClickers:** iClickers will be used frequently during this course. They can be purchased at the WVU bookstore and should be brought to every class. You must register your iClicker via eCampus before it can be used. Instructions for registering your clicker can be found at:

[www.as.wvu.edu/biology/bio21site/Procedure%20for%20registering%20your%20iClicker2.pdf](http://www.as.wvu.edu/biology/bio21site/Procedure%20for%20registering%20your%20iClicker2.pdf)

**Grades:** Letter grades are not assigned until the end of the course. Grades are based on the total number of points accumulated by the end of the semester and are determined using the following scale:

Grade	Percentage
A	84-100
B	72-83.9
C	58-71.9
D	48-57.9
F	<48

**Extra Credit Opportunities:** During the semester two extra credit opportunities (ECOs) will be offered by **each professor**. Each will count for 2% on the final exam grade and **no more than two ECOs can be completed by each student** (i.e. each student can receive no more than 4% on their final exam grade from extra credit). A student can receive credit for a **maximum 1 ECO offered by Dr. Peterjohn** and credit for a **maximum of 1 ECO offered by Dr. McGraw**. Details about these opportunities will be announced in class.

**Academic Integrity:** The integrity of the classes offered by any academic institution solidifies the foundation of its mission and cannot be sacrificed to expediency, ignorance, or blatant fraud. Therefore, we will enforce rigorous standards of academic integrity in all aspects and assignments of this course. The detailed policy of West Virginia University regarding the definitions of acts considered to fall under academic dishonesty and possible ensuing sanctions, please see the Student Conduct Code [http://studentlife.wvu.edu/office\\_of\\_student\\_conduct/student\\_conduct\\_code](http://studentlife.wvu.edu/office_of_student_conduct/student_conduct_code). Should you have any questions about possibly improper research citations or references, or any other activity that may be interpreted as an attempt at academic dishonesty, please see us before the assignment is due to discuss the matter. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and includes plagiarism, cheating and dishonest practices, and forgery, misrepresentation or fraud. The first occurrence of academic dishonesty will result in a zero being assigned to that component of the course (e.g., exam, quiz, etc.). A second occurrence of academic dishonesty will result in an F being assigned to the student for the entire course. A third instance will result in a student being assigned an unforgivable F for the entire course.

**English as a second language:** If English is your second language and you need assistance with the lectures, reading assignments or tests, please contact the instructor during office hours or by appointment. The first week of the semester is the best time for these discussions. All matters will be confidential.

**Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion:** The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion. The West Virginia University community is committed to creating and fostering a positive learning and working environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and inclusion.

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise us and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Accessibility Services (293-6700). For more information on West Virginia University's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives, please see <http://diversity.wvu.edu>.

**Evacuation Plan for Room G15:** In the event of an emergency, leave the classroom in an orderly manner. Those leaving from the back turn to the left after exiting the classroom. Those leaving from the middle of the classroom turn to the left or right after exiting. Those leaving from the front turn to the right after exiting the classroom. Leave the building through the nearest outside door. Once you've left the building, quickly move as far away as possible while avoiding parking lots. Do not congregate near the building or in parking lots.

**Syllabus:** This syllabus is issued for the convenience of the student and does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructors. The instructors reserve the right to change the syllabus at any time during the semester.