

**University of North Texas at
Dallas Fall 2015
SYLLABUS**

Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs BIOL 2140_30: Principles of Ecology: 3 Hrs	
Department of Life and Health Sciences	Division of Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
Instructor Name:	Dr. Donna Hamilton
Office Location:	Room 250, Founder's Hall (Building 2)
Office Phone:	(972) 338-1522
Email Address:	Donna.hamilton@untdallas.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesday: 8:00 - 10:00 am Thursday: 8:00 - 9:00 am (Or by appointment)
Virtual Office Hours:	N/A
Classroom Location:	ONLINE
Class Meeting Days & Times:	ONLINE
Course Catalog Description:	Ecological and evolutionary approach to understanding distribution, abundance, dispersion and form-function diversity of organisms. Focus on organisms, their physiological and life history adaptations, and populations.
Prerequisites:	None
Co-requisites:	BIOL1132D Laboratory
Required Texts or codes:	Elements of Ecology Plus MasteringBiology with eText -- Access Card Package, 9/E Thomas M. Smith, <i>University of Virginia</i> Robert Leo Smith, (<i>Emeritus</i>) <i>West Virginia University</i> ISBN-10: 0321934172 • ISBN-13: 9780321934178
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fhcg.follett.com
Course Goals or Overview:	
	Expected Learning Outcomes: Students will engage in a comparative study of ecological processes and patterns. They will be able to discuss and demonstrate content mastery in its quantification, explain the role of climate, population dynamics, life histories, competition both inter and intra specifically, and the adaptive roles and basis in evolutionary history.

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor via Blackboard or email.

Lecture Schedule

TOPICS	Timeline	Important Deadlines
Chapter 1: The Nature of Ecology	Week of 8/24/2015	
Chapter 2: Climate	Week of 9/1/2015	Pre-survey
Chapter 3: The Aquatic Environment	Week of 9/8/2015	
Chapter 4: The Terrestrial Environment	Week of 9/15/2015	JAR 1 EXAM 1
Chapter 5: Adaption and Natural Selection	Week of 9/22/2015	DRYAD 1
Chapter 7: Animal Adaptations to the Environment Chapter 8: Properties of Populations	Week of 9/29/2015	
Chapter 9: Population Growth	Week of 10/6/2015	Research Paper Bibliography due EXAM 2
Chapter 10: Life History	Week of 10/13/2015	DRYAD 2
Chapter 12: Species Interactions	Week of 10/20/2015	
Chapter 13: Interspecific competition	Week of 10/27/2015	
Chapter 14: Predation	Week of 10/27/2015	JAR 2 EXAM 3
Chapter 15: Parasitism and Mutualism	Week of 11/2/2015	DRYAD 3
Chapter 16: Community Structure	Week of 11/10/2015	
Chapter 19: Landscape Dynamics Chapter 22: Biogeochemical Cycles	Week of 11/17/2015	
Chapter 27: Ecology of Climate Change	Week of 11/30/15	Post- survey EXAM 4

Grades Possible:

Lecture Points		
Pre and Post Survey	2 @ 25 points each	50
Homework	17@ 10 points each	170
Quizzes	17@ 10 points each	170
Discussions	14@ 10 points each	140
Journal Article Review	2@ 25 points each	50
DRYAD	2@ 50 points each	100

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from this office. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me as early in the semester as possible. Disability Services is located in the Student Life Office in DAL2, Suite 200 and is open 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The phone number is (972) 338-1775.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

*Collaborative efforts on completing the assignments are encouraged so long as all member of the collaboration contribute equally. As with all other graded assessments, cheating will not be tolerated. While collaborations are encouraged, each student must submit their own work, which cannot be identical to the work submitted by the other members of the collaboration. Assignments should be turned in on time. Assignments should be turned in on time. **Late assignments are NOT ACCEPTED.***

Exam Policy:

*Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). If a student knows in advance that they will miss an exam, they must take the exam prior to the exam date. **There is no make-up exam for an unexcused, missed exam.** Students should arrive on time to take the exam. On exam day, once the first exam is turned in, no more exams will be distributed to students that arrive late to the exam period. Any student caught cheating will automatically receive a 0 on the exam, and the instructor may pursue further disciplinary action.*

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf> for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is required because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if

are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.