|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PROFESSOR:** | **PHONE NUMBER:** |
| **OFFICE LOCATION:** | **E-MAIL:** |
| **OFFICE HOURS:** | **SEMESTER:** |

1. **COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE, CATALOG DESCRIPTION, CREDITS:**

**PCB 3043C General Ecology (3 CREDITS)**

This course covers the basic concepts of ecology, providing an introduction to living systems at the population, community, ecosystem and landscape levels. Laboratory and field experiences are fully integrated into the course to support an inquiry based study of ecological concepts through active learning strategies. Current technologies for use with ecological experimental design, data management and analysis, computer simulation modeling and GIS applications will be employed.

1. **PREREQUISITES FOR THIS COURSE:**

BSC 1010/1010L and BSC 1011/1011L – all with a grade of “C” or higher**; Prior to enrolling in any upper level course (course number beginning with a 3 or 4), students must complete the following courses with a grade of “C” or better: ENC 1101 English Composition I, ENC 1102 English Composition II, and three semester hours of college level mathematics; or permission from the appropriate academic dean.**

**CO-REQUISITES FOR THIS COURSE:**

None

1. **GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:** Topic Outline.

* Overview of ecology, levels of organization and emergent properties
* Natural history and natural selection
* Adaptations to the environment
* Population ecology
* Interactions – individuals and populations
* Communities and ecosystems
* Large-scale ecology

1. **All courses at Florida SouthWestern State College contribute to the general education program by meeting one or more of the following general education competencies:**

**C**ommunicate clearly in a variety of modes and media.

**R**esearch and examine academic and non-academic information, resources, and evidence.

**E**valuate and utilize mathematical principles, technology, scientific and quantitative data.

**A**nalyze and create individual and collaborative works of art, literature, and performance.

**T**hink critically about questions to yield meaning and value.

**I**nvestigate and engage in the transdisciplinary applications of research, learning, and knowledge.

**V**isualize and engage the world from different historical, social, religious, and cultural approaches.

**E**ngage meanings of active citizenship in one’s community, nation, and the world.

**A.**  **General Education Competencies and Course Outcomes**

1. Listed here are the course outcomes/objectives assessed in this course which play an integral part in contributing to the student’s general education along with the general education competency it supports.

General Education Competency: **Evaluate**

Course Outcomes or Objectives Supporting the General Education Competency Selected:

* Compare and contrast general ecological concepts, theories and practices.
* Interpret basic ecological models to explore the effects of small-scale interactions on large-scale ecological patterns.
* Analyze and graph scientific data, using computer-based modeling, mapping, data-management and presentation applications.
* Evaluate and analyze the relationship between evolution and ecology.
* Distinguish among the costs and benefits of different behavioral ecology strategies (i.e. territorial defense, symbiosis, foraging, migration, group living)
* Compare and contrast patterns of geographic species distribution and abundance.
* Discuss factors that govern population growth (i.e. dispersal, colonization, disease, density, extinction).
* Design and conduct an experiment to investigate factors that affect population growth, using proper scientific method protocols
* Compare and contrast factors that affect community-level structure and function (i.e. succession, disturbance, biodiversity, productivity, food webs, nutrient cycles).
* Defend the role of conservation biology as it relates to the impact of human populations on the environment.

1. **DISTRICT-WIDE POLICIES:**

**Programs for Students with Disabilities**

Florida SouthWestern State College, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the College’s guiding principles, offers students with documented disabilities programs to equalize access to the educational process. Students needing to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or who suspect that their academic performance is affected by a disability should contact the Office of Adaptive Services at the nearest campus. The office locations and telephone numbers for the Office of Adaptive Services at each campus can be found at <http://www.fsw.edu/adaptiveservices>.

**REPORTING TITLE IX VIOLATIONS**

Florida SouthWestern State College, in accordance with Title IX and the Violence Against Women Act, has established a set of procedures for reporting and investigating Title IX violations including sexual misconduct.  Students who need to report an incident or need to receive support regarding an incident should contact the Equity Officer at [equity@fsw.edu](mailto:equity@fsw.edu).  Incoming students are encouraged to participate in the Sexual Violence Prevention training offered online.  Additional information and resources can be found on the College’s website at <http://www.fsw.edu/sexualassault>.

1. **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STUDENTS:**

List specific course assessments such as class participation, tests, homework assignments, make-up procedures, etc.

1. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

The professor’s specific policy concerning absence. (The College policy on attendance is in the Catalog, and defers to the professor.)

1. **GRADING POLICY:**

Include numerical ranges for letter grades; the following is a range commonly used by many faculty:

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C

60 - 69 = D

Below 60 = F

(Note: The “incomplete” grade [“I”] should be given only when unusual circumstances warrant. An “incomplete” is not a substitute for a “D,” “F,” or “W.” Refer to the policy on “incomplete grades.)

1. **REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS:**

(In correct bibliographic format.)

1. **RESERVED MATERIALS FOR THE COURSE:**

Other special learning resources.

1. **CLASS SCHEDULE:**

This section includes assignments for each class meeting or unit, along with scheduled Library activities and other scheduled support, including scheduled tests.

1. **ANY OTHER INFORMATION OR CLASS PROCEDURES OR POLICIES:**

(Which would be useful to the students in the class.)