

# Ecosystem Ecology (BIOL-5394\_02)

Lectures TR 2:00 – 3:20 -- LDB 125

Fall Semester 2017

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**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Jeffrey R. Wozniak

**email:** wozniak@shsu.edu; **phone:** 936-294-3759 (office)

- Office Hours (LDB 205b): TR 9:00-11:00 and by appointment
- Please email me to set up meeting times outside of scheduled office hours

**TEXT:**

- Environment, Power and Society. H.T. Odum
- A Prosperous Way Down. H.T Odum and E.C. Odum

## **COURSE POLICY & EXPECTATIONS:**

Attendance to class is required due to the volume of material covered each class and the importance of your feedback and discussion in the classroom. I expect each of you to be *present* and *prepared* for each and every class. This will involve having critically read the assigned text and completing the written assignments BEFORE EACH CLASS! The success of this class hinges on each of you being prepared and ready to engage in a discussion in each class session. All written assignments will be due at the start of the prescribed class session – NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED! Random pop quizzes will also be given throughout the semester. These quizzes will be given at the start of class and will have a set time limit (determined by length of quiz). Once this time has elapsed, the quizzes will be due and the class lecture/discussion will begin. There will be NO quiz make-ups for tardiness or class absences. There will be no extra credit offered in the course beyond the below definition of the available points in this course.

## **ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING:**

Your grade in this class will be a result of four components:

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|---|------------|
| 1. Class Attendance, Preparation & Participation: | 100 points |
| 2. Pop Quizzes: 5@10pts each                      | 50 points  |
| 3. Assignments 4@25pts each                       | 100 points |
| 4. Lecture Exams: 3 exams @100pts each            | 300 points |
| 5. Final Exam                                     | 100 points |

**Total Points = 650**

**points**

**Grading scale:** A  $\geq$  90%; B  $\geq$  80%; C  $\geq$  70%; D  $\geq$  60%; F < 60% NO CURVES.

### **• Pop Quizzes (approximately 5 @ 10 points each = 50 points):**

Several pop quizzes will be given throughout the semester. These quizzes will occur at the beginning of class, will have a time limit and will not be re-administered—so please show up to class on time!! If more than 10 quizzes are given over the course of the semester, the ten best scores will be used. Quiz questions will relate to the previous lecture or discussion.

### **• Participation in lecture (100 points total):**

Students will be expected to participate in discussion of book chapters or papers assigned for each week of class. Discussion may involve criticism of the research questions, methods, conclusions, writing style or any other aspect of the paper.

**• Assignments (4 @ 25 points each):** Throughout the semester several assignments will be given that will be centered on recent lecture material. Due dates and additional details will be discussed when the assignment is handed out.

• **Exams (4 @ 100 points each):**

Undergraduates: 3 mid-term exams will be administered during the semester. The exact dates and material to be covered on each will be determined during the semester. The final will be given at the end of the semester and will be comprehensive. All exams will include a combination of long and short essays, multiple choice questions, and short answer questions.

Graduates: All exams will be oral. 3 mid-term exams will be administered during the semester. The exact dates and material to be covered on each will be determined during the semester. The final will be given at the end of the semester and will be comprehensive – the final will have both written and oral components.

▪ If you have questions or concerns during the semester, I urge you to contact me immediately so that we can set up a time to meet. A large portion of this class will be discussion based and your participation is critical. If you do not understand a concept or have questions that will preclude you from participating in discussions, it is your responsibility to seek the answers to those questions. Please know that I will be more than happy to meet with you and will do my best to make sure each student understands all the material presented.

▪ Most class assignments, worksheets and other materials will be available on BlackBoard (Bb).

▪ **Academic Dishonesty:** Students are expected to maintain honesty & integrity in all academic experiences both in & out of the classroom. *Issues will be pursued with the Dean of Students office*

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: <http://www.shsu.edu/administrative/faculty/sectionb.html#dishonesty>

▪ **Classroom Rules of Conduct:** Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

▪ **Student Absences on Religious Holy Days:** Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

▪ **Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. *See Student Syllabus Guidelines.*

Any student with a disability that affects his/her academic performance should contact the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities in the SHSU Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786) to request accommodations.

▪ **Visitors in the Classroom:** Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

