

FIELD ECOLOGY EEB 415

Fall 2013 (for undergraduate and graduate credit – 4 hours)

Class Meeting Times Tuesday 12-5 (sometimes later) - meet at Dabney Rm. 575

Instructors:

Joe Bailey
Office Hours: By appointment
Joe.Bailey@utk.edu



Course Objectives:

Study of the fundamental concepts in field ecology. By the end of the course students will have a working toolbox of field techniques in population, community and ecosystem ecology. Specific skills that will be developed include field observation and hypothesis development, experimental design, field sampling techniques, statistics and data analysis, and written and oral presentations. The course will utilize southeastern ecosystems, local field sites, and existing experiments as an observational and experimental laboratory to gain a working knowledge of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

Assessment:

Undergraduate Grading: 75% based on 3 group project written reports, 25% based upon 1 group project oral report.

Graduate Student Grades: 45% based upon 3 group project written reports, 25% based upon 1 group project oral report, 30% based upon 1 individual project written report.
INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS – Graduate Students Only

Graduate students will write an additional paper on an Independent Project of their choosing (with approval by instructors). This can be a related to their own research (encouraged) or development of any of the group projects.

NO FINAL EXAM

**All papers due electronically by midnight of due date. Papers to be emailed in Word format along with an Excel spreadsheet of all collected data. Papers formatted as for an Article in Ecology (see website for instructions: <http://esapubs.org/esapubs/AuthorInstructions.htm>) and sample paper.

Attire:

All days in the field will result in possible exposure to poison ivy, insects and natural obstacles. Please dress appropriately – long pants, boots or high-top shoes, bring rain jacket, etc. Also bring **plenty** of water and any food you require (bring lunch on Sat. field trips). We will be hot, there will be bugs and we will be working hard, so plan appropriately!

Any student who feels that she or he may need accommodations for any sort of physical or learning disability, please speak with instructors to make arrangements.

Schedule:

Tuesday afternoons will be spent at field study sites conducting original research projects. In addition, 3 all-day (8am-5pm) Saturday field trips will supplement the Tuesday afternoons to obtain additional field time. Oral presentations will be in Dabney Rm. 575 on scheduled dates.

Project	Date	What we're doing	Location
	8/27 (T)	Overview/ Intro	Dabney 575
Project 1	8/31 (S)	Research	Field
	9/3 (T)	Research	Field
	9/10 (T)	Research	Field
	9/17 (T)	Research	Field
	9/24 (T)	Talks-Project 1	Dabney 575
Project 2	10/1 (T)	Research Papers due-Project 1	Field
	10/5 (S)	Research	Field
	10/8 (T)	Research	Field
	10/15 (T)	Research	Field
	10/22 (T)	Research	
	10/29 (T)	Talks-Project 2	Dabney 575
Project 3	11/2 (S)	Research	Field
	11/5 (T)	Papers due-Project 2	Field
	11/12 (T)	Research	Field
	11/19 (T)	Research	Field
	11/26 (T)	Talks-Project 3	Dabney 575
	12/3 (T)	Papers due-Project 3 & Graduate Student Indep. Projects	