

**Evolution, Ecology & Biodiversity**  
**BIOL 2343 (section 002)**  
**Spring 2008**  
**MW 5<sup>30</sup>-6<sup>50</sup>**

**Dr. Jill DeVito LS 460 817-272-1225 jilldevito@uta.edu**

**Office Hours:** MW 11<sup>00</sup>-noon, MW 4<sup>30</sup>-5<sup>20</sup> pm, TR by appointment

**Description of Course Content:** Reviews significant aspects of organismal biology and presents current hypotheses concerning the origin and diversification of life on earth. The ecological and behavioral interactions between organisms and their biotic/abiotic environments are considered from an evolutionary perspective.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students will develop a basic understanding of 1) the diversity of extant organisms; 2) the evolutionary mechanisms by which this diversity has arisen and is maintained; 3) ecological interactions within and among species, and between organisms and their environment; 4) significance of the identity and role of *Homo sapiens* in the context of evolution, ecology, and biodiversity.

**Requirements:** BIOL 1441 (prerequisite) or permission of the instructor

**Required Textbook:** Campbell & Reece, *Biology* (7<sup>th</sup> edition)

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

	<u>Lecture Topics</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Jan 14,16	Evolutionary Theory	22
Jan 21,23	<b>No Class Monday 01/21 (Martin Luther King Holiday)</b>	
	Evolution of Populations	23
Jan 28,30	Evolution of Populations cont'd; Species & Speciation	23,24
Feb 04,06	Phylogeny & Systematics, Unit Review	25
Feb 11,13	<b>Exam 1 (Unit 4) Monday Feb 11</b>	
	Origin of Life	26
Feb 18,20	Prokaryotes, Protists	27,28
Feb 25,27	Plants, Fungi	29/30,31
Mar 03,05	Animal Diversity, Invertebrates	32,33
Mar 10,12	Vertebrates	34
	<b>Exam 2 (Unit 5) Wednesday Mar 12</b>	
Mar 17,20	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Mar 24,26	Introduction to Ecology, Behavioral Ecology	50,51
Mar 31,02	Behavioral Ecology cont'd, Population Ecology	51,52
Apr 07,09	Community Ecology	53
Apr 14,16	Energy Flow & Chemical Cycling, Conservation Biology	54,55
Apr 21,23	Unit Review	
	<b>Exam 3 (Unit 8) Wednesday Apr 23</b>	
Apr 28,30	Special Topics	
May 05	<b>Final Exam (cumulative; Units 4,5,8 &amp; special topics) Monday May 05, 5<sup>30</sup>-8<sup>00</sup> pm</b>	

Please note **census date Wednesday 01/30** and **drop date Friday 03/28**.

**Grading Policy:** Exams will contain a combination of question styles (e.g., multiple choice, matching, true/false). A typical exam will contain fifty questions. It will be your responsibility to bring a Scantron form and No. 2 pencil to each exam. Grades will be awarded as follows:

**three lecture (midterm) exams;** best two of these scores each worth 33.3% of total grade

**cumulative lecture final** (mandatory) worth 33.3% of total grade

**semester grade:** A = 90-100%, B = 80-90% C = 70-80%, D = 60-70%, F < 60%

**Attendance Policy:** Lecture attendance is highly recommended for improving your performance on examinations. Be considerate to your fellow students; turn off your cell phone ringer before class begins, and do not carry on conversations with your classmates during the lecture.

**Drop Policy:** If you decide to drop this course (or any other, for that matter) you must obtain a drop slip from the departmental undergraduate advisor's office fill it out, have the instructor of the course you wish to drop sign the slip and return it to the advisor's office. If you simply stop attending class without first completing and returning to the undergraduate advisor a drop slip you remain enrolled in the class and will receive a grade of F. Please refer to deadlines listed in the academic calendar.

### **Important University Policies:**

**Americans With Disabilities Act:** If you are a student who requires accommodations in compliance with the ADA, please consult with me at the beginning of the semester. As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Your responsibility is to inform me of the disability at the beginning of the semester and provide me with documentation authorizing the specific accommodation. Student services at UTA include the Office for Students with Disabilities (located in the lower level of the University Center) which is responsible for verifying and implementing accommodations to ensure equal opportunity in all programs and activities.

**Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

**Student Support Services Available:** The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabi. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

**Drop for non-payment of tuition:** Payment must be received by the term due date of January 9, 2008 or your registration will be cancelled. If your registration is cancelled for non-payment, you may reregister for classes but only if seats are available.

**Bomb Threats:** If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by bomb threats. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

**After Hours Safety Escort:** The Sam Mav Escort service provides a service to assist students, faculty, staff and campus visitors to reach their destinations after regular business hours. The hours of service are 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Sunday through Saturday. 817-272-3381

**MavMail:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at [www.uta.edu/email](http://www.uta.edu/email). New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.

**Make-up Exam Policy:** Your lowest exam score will be dropped from your grade calculation (except for the cumulative final, which is mandatory). Thus, one missed exam (except the final) will not bring down your score because the grade of zero will not be included in your semester average. Since your midterm scores may fall short of your expectations once or more during the semester, it is to your advantage to sit for as many examinations as possible. Missing an exam for a reason less than an emergency is not recommended.

**Grade Grievance Policy:** Please refer to the current undergraduate catalog for the grade grievance policy and the required timeframe for filing an appeal.

**Those who do not read are no better off than those who cannot  
Chinese proverb**

**The palest ink is better than the strongest memory  
Chinese proverb**

**You'll never plow a field by turning it over in your mind  
Irish proverb**

**The day of the storm is not the day for thatching  
Irish proverb**