

Evolution & Ecology
BIOL 2343 (section 001)
Spring 2010
TR 12³⁰-1⁵⁰ pm LS 118

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

Office Hours: MW 11⁴⁵-12⁴⁵ TR 11⁴⁵-12¹⁵ & 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; and 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 et al., *Biology* (8th edition)

Tentative Lecture Schedule (Section 1 T/R)

	<u>Lecture Topics</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Jan 19,21	Evolutionary Theory	22
Jan 26,28	Evolution of Populations	23
Feb 2,4	Species & Speciation, Phylogeny & Systematics	24,25
Feb 9,11	Origin of Life, Evolution unit review	26
Feb 16,18	Exam 1 (Unit 4+Ch26) Tues Feb 16, Prokaryotes	27
Feb 23,25	Protists, Plants	28,29/30
Mar 2,4	Fungi, Animal Diversity	31,32
Mar 9,11	Invertebrates, Deuterostomes	33,34
Mar 16,18	Have a Wonderful Spring Break Mar 15-19	
Mar 23,25	Amniotes	34
Mar 30,4/1	Biodiversity unit review, Exam 2 (Unit 5) Thurs Apr 1	
Apr 6,8	Behavioral Ecology, Sociobiology	51
Apr 13,15	Introduction to Ecology, Population Ecology	52,53
Apr 20,22	Community Ecology, Ecosystems, Conservation Biology	54-56
Apr 27,29	honors presentations, Exam 3 (Unit 8 & honors topics) Thurs Apr 29	
May 4,6	<i>Journey of Man</i> movie (in class bonus assignment)	
May 13	Final Exam (cumulative) http://www3.uta.edu/registrar/FinalSpring2010.asp Thursday May 13, 11am-1³⁰pm	

Please note **census date Wednesday Feb 3** and **drop date Friday Apr 2**.

Evolution & Ecology
BIOL 2343 (section 002)
Spring 2010
MW 5³⁰-7⁵⁰ pm GS 100

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Office Hours: MW 11⁴⁵-12⁴⁵ TR 11⁴⁵-12¹⁵ & by appointment

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

Required Textbook: Campbell et al., *Biology* (8th edition)

Tentative Lecture Schedule (Section 2 M/W)

	<u>Lecture Topics</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Jan 20	Evolutionary Theory	22
Jan 25,27	Evolutionary Theory (cont'd), Evolution of Populations	22,23
Feb 1,3	Evolution of Populations (cont'd), Species & Speciation	23,24
Feb 8,10	Phylogeny & Systematics, Origin of Life	25,26
Feb 15,17	Exam 1 (Unit 4+Ch26) Mon Feb 15, Prokaryotes	27
Feb 22,24	Protists, Plants	28,29/30
Mar 1,3	Fungi, Animal Diversity	31,32
Mar 8,10	Invertebrates, Deuterostomes	33,34
Mar 15,17	Have a Wonderful Spring Break Mar 15-19	
Mar 22,24	Amniotes	34
Mar 29,31	Biodiversity unit review, Exam 2 (Unit 5) Wed Mar 31	
Apr 5,7	Behavioral Ecology, Sociobiology	51
Apr 12,14	Introduction to Ecology, Population Ecology	52,53
Apr 19,21	Community Ecology, Ecosystems, Conservation Biology	54-56
Apr 26,28	honors presentations, Exam 3 (Unit 8 & honors topics) Wed Apr 28	
May 3,5	<i>Journey of Man</i> movie (in class bonus assignment)	
May 10	Final Exam (cumulative) http://www3.uta.edu/registrar/FinalSpring2010.asp Monday May 10, 5³⁰pm-8pm	

Please note **census date Wednesday Feb 3** and **drop date Friday Apr 2**.

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 882 and No. 2 pencil to each exam. Grades will be awarded as follows:

three lecture (midterm) exams; each worth 33.3% of total grade

cumulative lecture final (optional) replaces low midterm; worth 33.3% of total grade

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

Make-up Exam Policy: The cumulative final examination is optional, and (should you choose to take it) will replace your lowest midterm exam score. If you miss an exam, the final is thus your opportunity to replace the zero. 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. If you know **well in advance** that you have a schedule conflict with an exam date, please see me regarding possible make-up options *at my discretion*. If you miss an exam without adequate notice for whatever reason, the final is your backup plan.

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 13, 2010 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. 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.

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

Honors 2303: Students enrolled for honors credit will have a chance to hone their public speaking skills. (Trust me – this will serve you very well in your future science career endeavors!) To fulfill your commitment, you will 1) sign up for a timeslot for your 15 minute presentation during the first two weeks of class, 2) submit a topic for approval at least three weeks prior to your chosen date, and 3) present a thorough but concise review of your subject material with visual aides (PowerPoint). You are also encouraged to submit an outline or draft of your talk for review at least one week in advance. Please see me individually for additional questions or for guidance choosing an ideal topic.

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