

# General Ecology 4240/5240

## SYLLABUS

Fall session, 2008

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### Required materials:

Ecology: Concepts and Applications. Manuel C. Molles, Jr. 4<sup>th</sup> edition

### Overview:

This is a senior/graduate level biology class and I expect you to perform at that level. You will be responsible for attending **all** lectures and labs, and for completing **all** outside readings and assignments. Ecology is among the most quantitative sub-disciplines of modern biology, so expect lots of mathematics. My hope is that you develop an understanding for why math is an important tool for solving problems in modern biology.

### Grading and attendance policy:

I expect you to attend lecture and lab as scheduled and to show up on time. Unexcused absences and chronic tardiness will not go unnoticed, and may be taken into account when final grades are assigned.

Your final grade will be calculated as the average of the following grading events.

Regular semester lecture exams (there will be three (including the final) worth 100 points each)

Special project – 100 points

**Note:** *Any* material covered in lecture, laboratory, or in the assigned readings is fair game for exams and quizzes. There is no such thing as “extra credit”. Missing an exam or quiz will result in a grade of zero. Should you miss a single exam, for any reason, you will be allowed to substitute the grade from a

<sup>\*</sup>  
comprehensive final exam for that exam score. Missing a second or third exam will result in a grade of zero for each grading event. **No makeup exams will be given.**

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A: 93 - 100

B: 83 - 92

C: 73 - 82

D: 63 - 72

F: 62 and below

\* This exam will consist of approximately 200 multiple choice questions plus 5 essay questions pertaining to *any* material covered during the course of the semester.