**BIOL 3318: Limnology**

**Fall 2016**

**Instructor:** Dr. Corey E. Roelke

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**Email Address:** croelke@uta.edu

**Office Hours:** MWF 10:00 – 10:50 am, or by appointment

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** MWF 9:00 – 9:50 am, LS 118

**Syllabus:** If you ask me a question that is easily answered by examining this syllabus I reserve the right to not subject your most recent or upcoming exam to any curve that is applied to the rest of the class. **Consider this your warning.**

**Description of Course Content:** The living and nonliving components of inland waters. An introduction to the geological, physical, and chemical background, and to the major organisms and ecological processes. Prerequisite: BIOL 1441 and BIOL 1442 or equivalent.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** At the end of this course students will be able to:

1) Describe inland waters and their characteristics across the Earth.

2) Understand how the physical and chemical components of inland waters influence their mechanical function at an ecological level.

3) Understand how the discipline of limnology acted as a driver and experimental crucible for modern ecology.

**Required Textbook:** Textbook of Limnology, 5th edition. By Gerald A. Cole and Paul E. Weihe. Waveland Press, 2016. You should buy this book. It will help immensely.

**Attendance:** I do not take attendance, but your attendance is strongly encouraged. Students who attend class generally perform better in the course.

**Grading**: Your grade will be based on four exams, all noncomprehensive. Each is worth 25% of your course grade.

Exams will be fifty multiple choice questions. Please bring a blue scantron (NCS form 4521) in good shape (not crumpled) and a pencil to each exam. You will have the entire 50 minute class period to complete each exam, including the final. Please mark you scantrons carefully. I will not change a grade because of an answer marked incorrectly from an erasure.

The grading scale will be as follows:

> 90 = A

80 – 90 = B

70 – 80 = C

60 – 70 = D

< 60 = F

Individual exam grades and final percentages **MAY** be curved. This is not a guarantee for the entire course or any individual exam. You will receive a grade based on your exam scores. Please do not beg for points. There is a cutoff point when it comes to letter grades. If you are below the cutoff for a specific letter grade, no amount of grade grubbing will get you a higher grade.

I will post your exam grades and final grades on Blackboard. If there is a problem with your grade, contact me BEFORE you see your final grade on MyMav. It is much easier and faster to change a grade before it is formally entered.

Make-up exam policy: If you miss a class when an exam is scheduled, you may take a make-up exam. **ALL make-up exams will be in essay format**. The questions and grading will be at my discretion.

**Course schedule:** I have not set an exam schedule yet. You will have at least one week’s advance notice before each exam. Just as a simple tip, if you ask me when the exam is, I’ll have very good evidence you aren’t attending class.

Chapter 1: Introduction to Limnology

Chapter 2: Survey of Limnological Biodiversity

Chapter 3: The Limnetic Communities

Chapter 4: Ecosystems, Energy, and Production

Exam #1(remember Zoology? It’s back.)

Chapter 5: Lake Origins and Evolution

Chapter 6: Shapes and Sizes of Lakes

Chapter 7: Wetlands

Chapter 8: Streams: the Lotic Ecosystem

Exam #2 (Let’s learn about wet places that aren’t the ocean.)

Chapter 9: Light and the Aquatic Ecosystem

Chapter 10: Density, Layering, and Lake Mixing

Chapter 11: Heat Energy and Wave Movements

Exam #3 (Physics? In biology? Fluid dynamics? Ouch.)

Chapter 12: Oxygen and Other Dissolved Gasses

Chapter 13: Carbon Dioxide, Alkalinity, and pH: the CO2 System

Chapter 14: The Major Ions in Inland Waters

Chapter 15: Redox, Metals, Nutrients, and Organic Substances

Exam #4 (Yeah, chemistry is back, too. It’s going to get a little mathy again as well. Sorry.)

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UTArlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of **a letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability).

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit*[*uta.edu/eos*](http://www.uta.edu/hr/eos/index.php)*.*

**Title IX Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington (“University”) is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated.*For information regarding Title IX, visit* [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX) or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or [jmhood@uta.edu](file:///C:\Users\croelke\Downloads\jmhood@uta.edu).

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Campus Carry:** Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/>

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as “lecture,” “seminar,” or “laboratory” are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students’ anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses**,** 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 syllabus*. 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. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include [tutoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/learning-center/tutoring/index.php), [major-based learning centers](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/college-based-clinics-labs.php), developmental education, [advising and mentoring](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/advising.php), personal counseling, and [federally funded programs](http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/current/academic-support/mcnair/index.php). For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**Emergency Phone Numbers**: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381