

Evolution & Ecology BIOL 1442-001
M/T/W/Th 10³⁰ - 12³⁰ Classroom TBA
Dr. Jill DeVito LS 460 817-272-1225 jilldevito@uta.edu

<https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/jill-devito>

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 12³⁰-1⁰⁰ & by appointment

** **Summer I 2017** ** Please note **census date Jun 08** and **drop deadline Jun 26** **

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

Student Learning Outcomes: Student 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.

This course counts as part of the **Environmental and Sustainability Studies Minor**, a minor that is open to students in all majors, in all colleges. For more information about ESS classes, requirements & advising:

[http://www.uta.edu/english/alaimo/For%20ESS%20Minors%20\(Environmental%20and%20Sustainability%20Studies\).html](http://www.uta.edu/english/alaimo/For%20ESS%20Minors%20(Environmental%20and%20Sustainability%20Studies).html)

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

Required Textbook: Campbell et al., *Biology* (10th ed.) ISBN-10: 0321775658

Tentative Lecture Schedule (last updated **April 24)**

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	
June 05 M	Descent with Modification: A Darwinian View of Life	22
June 06 T	Descent with Modification cont'd, Evolution of Populations	22,23
June 07 W	The Origin of Species, The History of Life on Earth	24-25
June 08 Th	The History of Life on Earth cont'd, Phylogeny and the Tree of Life, Prokaryotes	25-27
June 12 M	Exam 1 (ch22-26)	
June 13 T	Protists, Plants (bring textbook to class for group activity)	28-29
June 14 W	Plants, Fungi (bring textbook to class for group activity)	30-31
June 15 Th	Animals (bring textbook to class for group activity)	32-33
June 19 M	Animals cont'd, Human Evolution	34
June 20 T	Biodiversity review exercises & BINGO practice quiz	28-34
June 21 W	Exam 2 (ch27-34)	
June 22 Th	Behavioral Ecology, Introduction to Ecology	51-52
June 26 M	Introduction to Ecology cont'd, Population Ecology	52-53
June 27 T	Community Ecology	54
June 28 W	Ecosystems	55
June 29 Th	Conservation Biology & Sustainability	56
July 03 M	Exam 3 (ch51-56 & special topic key points)	
July 04 T	Independence Day holiday (no class today)	
July 05 W	honors student presentations & Climate Change Jeopardy activity (key pts fair game for final exam)	
July 06 Th	reading day (we will not hold class today; happy studying!)	
July 07 Th	Final Exam (cumulative) during normal class time (please make note of this adjustment)	

As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Jill DeVito, PhD

Grading Policy: BIOL 1442 lab component counts for 1/3 of your total grade (see GTA for lab syllabus).

Calculate Your Semester Grade: total = [lecture avg x 0.67] + [lab avg x 0.33]

Lecture Grade:

Midterm Exam 1	= 25% of semester grade (lecture portion)
Midterm Exam 2	= 25% of semester grade (lecture portion)
Midterm Exam 3	= 25% of semester grade (lecture portion)
Cumulative Final	= 25% of semester grade (lecture portion)

Lecture exams will contain a combination of question styles (e.g., multiple choice, matching, true/false). A typical exam will contain between 30-50 questions. It will be your responsibility to bring a crisp, undamaged **Scantron form 882 (the green half sheet)** and a No. 2 pencil.

semester grade: A = 89.5-100%, B = 79.5-89.4% C = 69.5-79.4%, D = 59.5-69.4%, F < 59.5%

Make-up Exam Policy: Exams can occasionally be made up **with adequate advance notice** by appointment with a graduate student proctor, at your instructor's discretion. If you miss an exam without adequate advance notice, please talk to your instructor about the **possibility** of double-weighting the final exam. This arrangement is a **last resort**, made on a case by case basis, **with documentation**, and **at the discretion** of your instructor.

Attendance: At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. Students who attend class tend to earn higher grades, and **I do not recommend enrolling in my class this semester if you anticipate a recurring schedule conflict with work or other responsibilities.** Exam dates are listed clearly in this syllabus, so please plan around them.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional nine hours per week of their own time in course-related activities (reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.).

Academic Integrity: All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UTA 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.

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) 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.

In the event of a suspected breach of academic integrity (collusion, copying, plagiarism, stealing blank copies of a quiz or exam, referring to notes during a quiz or exam, etc.), you will receive a hearing by the Office of Community Standards. The hearing will be fair to the student, and judgments are based on evidence. If the outcome of the hearing finds you to be responsible for breaking the honor code, the penalty for the incident is left up to the individual instructor. This penalty can range from small (i.e., receive a zero for an individual quiz or assignment), to moderate (i.e., receive a zero for the whole series of quizzes or assignments / receive an exam score of zero), to severe (automatic failing grade for the course). In the past, I (Dr. DeVito) have tended to dole out penalties in the "moderate" category. However, I reserve the right to choose the penalty according to my judgment in each individual set of circumstances. Also keep in mind that once you have a judgment against you, a repeat offense can result in very severe penalties (at the discretion of the Office of Community Standards) including dismissal from the university.

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. 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.**

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.

Title IX: The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

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, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. 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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

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>.

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a 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 enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

Drop for non-payment of tuition: Payment must be received by the term due date or your registration will be cancelled. If your registration is cancelled for non-payment, you may reregister for classes if seats are 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 pm to 1:00 am daily. 817-272-3381

**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**