

ENVP U6111 Principles of Ecology

Professor Matthew Palmer

Course Objectives

This course facilitates learning about basic principles related to ecological interactions of life on earth. We will focus on how organisms change through time, interact with the non-living environment, and interact with each other at a range of scales.

The specific objectives of the course are:

- To gain an understanding of the ways in which biology can contribute to the solution of environmental problems facing human society.
- To contribute biological perspectives to an interdisciplinary approach to environmental problem solving.

Method of Instruction

Each session of the course includes the examination of key questions and concepts that will be illustrated by lectures, class discussion, and readings.

Interactive course lectures will present a broad overview of the issues in ecology affecting individuals, populations, and ecosystems. Students will be expected to complete the assigned reading before class and be prepared to discuss the readings in class.

Attendance at both lecture and lab sections is required. You will not be able to make up labs unless you request permission from the professor and beforehand. All requests should be made via email and copied to the TAs.

Method of Evaluation

Participation: 20%

Lab assignments: 50%

Final essays: 30%

Office Hours

Tuesdays: 2:30p - 4:30p (Rae), 6:00p - 8:00p (Nicole), or by appointment

Wednesdays: 12:00- 2:00, or by appointment (Professor Palmer)