

# **BIOLOGY 150A – MODERN BIOLOGY**

**Fall 2019**

**Department of Biology, University of Victoria**

## **Course Description**

An introduction to biological science, discussing the diversity of organisms and the evolutionary and ecological principles underlying this diversity. Topics include the history of life, genetics, mechanisms of evolution, biological diversity, and the ecology of communities and ecosystems.

## **Meetings**

Section A01: TWF 9:30 ó 10:20 AM, MacLaurin A144 (David Lam Auditorium)

Section A02: TWF 1:30 ó

phone: 250-721-7140

email: gregoryb@uvic.ca. If you send an email, put "Biology 150A" in the message line.

Office hours: Wednesday, 10:30 AM ó 12:00 noon, or by appointment, or drop by.

Dr. Beaulieu will also be serving as **course coordinator**, so if you have any course business or other issues, he is the person to see.

Dr. David Punzalan (biological diversity; October)

office: Petch 007

phone 250-721-7109

email: davidpunzalan@uvic.ca. If you send an email, put "Biology 150A" in the message line.

Office hours: TBA / by appointment

Dr. Barbara Ehling (ecology; November)

office: Petch 005

phone: 250-472-4066

email: behlting@uvic.ca. If you send an email, put "Biology 150A" in the message line.

Office hours: TBA / by appointment

The three of us love biology, have had a lifelong involvement with it, and hope to transmit to you the endless fascination and excitement of the scientific study of life.

### **Required Text**

*Campbell Biology Concepts and Connections*, Canadian edition. Available in the bookstore. This is the same text that was used in Biology 150A/B last year, so used copies are available.

The text prices of various formats are as follows (as of August 27; this list of prices is not official):

#### UVic Bookstore ó

- new book \$166.75 (includes Mastering Biology and etext)
- used book \$125.25 (does not include Mastering Biology or etext access)
- etext + Mastering Biology \$99.50 (access for 180 days only)

#### SubText ó

- used book \$75-\$100, depending on condition

As you see above, Mastering Biology plus the etext. Some students find this access useful, but we do not require access in this course, so a used book will do fine.

If you buy a new book, or if you buy the etext + Mastering Biology, you will need a course ID to get into the Pearson website. The course ID is

If you buy a used book and would like access to Mastering Biology (without the etext), you can buy access directly from the Pearson website.

If you decide to use some other edition of the book or some other biology text, for budgetary reasons or reasons of convenience, you will have to find the relevant pages in the book you have, based on the lecture material.

### **Course Website**

Biology 150A has a CourseSpaces website. There you will find lecture notes, notices, marks and links. You should look on the website before each class and bring the lecture notes posted there. The lecture notes we post are skeletal notes only, and you should expand upon them during class.

Please be aware that the lecture notes we post are for personal use only and must not be published, distributed, sold or posted anywhere else.

### **Class Conduct**

We ask you to be mindful of where you are, and to treat the people around you with respect and courtesy. Talking in class, texting and surfing are all irksome to students sitting nearby and to the instructor. Please turn your cell phones and all social media sites OFF during class time.

### **Make friends**

It can be useful to you if you know someone in the class, because you can arrange to get expanded notes in case you miss a class, and you can lend that person your notes when needed.

Even better, the friendships you make in your undergrad years can last a lifetime.

### **Evaluation**

Midterm 1 (Friday, October 4)	25%	*F t0Dgcwkgwà'o cvgtkcn'qpn{ +
Midterm 2 (Tuesday, November 5)	25%	(Dr. Punzalanø material only)
Final Exam (December final exam period)	50%	(cumulative, with emphasis on F t0Gj nkpì ø'***** material)

The two midterms will be written during the regular class periods.

All exams will be multiple choice format.

### **Midterms, Final Exam and Grading Policy**

No electronic devices will be permitted during the midterms and final exam.

During the midterms and the final exam, invigilators cannot answer any clarification questions about the exam. However, if you believe a question is bad (no correct answer, more than one equally correct answer), please bring your concerns to the attention of an invigilator as soon as possible after the exam.

If you must miss a midterm for a valid reason (illness, accident, family affliction, or competition as a UVic athlete), you must notify the course coordinator (Dr. Beaulieu, gregoryb@uvic.ca) as soon as possible and provide suitable documentation for your absence. Your course grade will be computed from the other components of the course, and you will not be penalized.

The final exam can be deferred in cases of illness, accident, family affliction, or commitments as a UVic athlete. If you expect to miss the final exam in December, please notify the course coordinator (Dr. Beaulieu, gregoryb@uvic.ca) as soon as possible, either by phone, email or in person. To make your deferred status official in the eyes of the university, you must also fill out a Request for Academic Concession (RAC) form, available from Undergraduate Admissions and Records in the University Center or online (<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>).

In order to pass this course, you must write the final exam and at least one of the midterms, and your course grade must be 50% or better.

Travel plans are not a valid reason for missing a midterm or the final exam, even Christmas travel plans, and even if a plane ticket has been purchased for you by someone else without your knowledge. Please do not make plans to leave Victoria in December without being sure that your final exams in all your courses will be over.

This term, the final exam period ends for all faculties on Saturday, December 21; the last exam will be in the evening of that day. Your last exam might be on this date, or it might be sooner ó {qw'y qpø'hpqy "wpw'ij g'hpcn'exam schedule is posted in October.

### **Deferred final exam**

For those students who need to defer the final exam for any of the reasons listed above (illness, accident, family affliction, or commitments as a UVic athlete), the deferred final will be written on Saturday, January 11, 2020, 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon, in Bob Wright A104.

*This constitutes your official notice of the time and place.*

### **Grading Policy**

In determining your final grade for the course, our spreadsheet will round your course score to the nearest whole percent. That is the official course grade that will be submitted for you.

We cannot change your grade, except if we have made an error in determining it. There is no extra work that you can do to raise your grade. *Please do not ask us to raise your grade because you need or want a higher one.*

### **Special Resources**

Take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress.

Counselling Services - *Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students.* <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/>

Health Services - *University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives.*

