

## BIOL100 - NATURAL HISTORY & ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY - Spring 2020

- go to course website for copies, corrections and updates -

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

#### **Dr. Leslie Seiger**

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Tel (619) 388-2425

Office: MS 315P

#### **Drop In Office Hours for Students in MS 315P**

Mon/Wed 1<sup>00</sup> – 2<sup>00</sup>

Tue/Thu 9<sup>30</sup> - 11<sup>00</sup>

**additional times available by appointment**

**Website** <http://homework.sdmesa.edu/lseiger/>

### COURSE INFORMATION

**LECTURE: Tuesday & Thursday 11:10 am – 12:35 pm in room MS-201**

**LAB:** CRN 23495 Tuesday 1:20 pm-4:20 pm in room MS212

CRN 23494 Thursday 1:20 pm-4:20 pm in room MS212

**Catalog Course Description:** Lecture topics include basic principles of ecology, the nature of the physical environment, the aquatic environments, the terrestrial environments and population dynamics. This is a community approach, fitting organisms into their proper role in nature. The laboratory is coordinated with lectures emphasizing the plant and animal communities of Southern California. Several field trips will be required, some on the weekend. (FT). Associate Degree Credit & transfer to CSU and/or private colleges and universities. UC T ransfer Course List. BIOL 100 and 120 combined: maximum credit, one course. **3.00 Lecture Hours, 3.00 Lab Hours, 4.00 Units, Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option**

**Advisory:** Completion of or concurrent enrollment in ENGL 049 and ENGL 048, each with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent, or assessment Skill Levels W5/R5.

#### **Course Objectives**

The objectives of the course are to introduce the student to

1. principles of ecology
2. features of major biotic communities
3. the natural history of biotic communities and common plants and animals of San Diego County
4. key factors influencing local and other biotic communities
5. the consequences of human impacts on the natural environment

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Be able to describe the major biological communities of San Diego County.
2. Relate evolution and the diversity of life to the theory of natural selection
3. Identify several common plants and animals of each biotic community.
4. Be able to communicate, using examples, the importance of interconnections among living organisms and their environments.
5. Think critically about human impacts affecting biological systems.

**Course Outline And Scope:** Topics to be covered are provided in the attached lecture and lab schedules.

**Field Trip Requirements:** Field trips are a required component of this course. Most field trips will be conducted during regularly scheduled lab hours, others may be completed by students on their own outside of class time. Transportation to and from the field trip site is the responsibility of the student. Some field trips may require the student to pay a small admission fee. Details, directions and instructions of what to wear and bring will be provided before each field trip. Please see "Accommodation of Disability" and "Classroom Behavior And Student Code Of Conduct."

#### **Accommodation Of Disability:**

Students with disabilities who may need academic accommodations should notify the professor immediately.

## Required Textbooks & Supplies:

1. **Concepts of Biology** from OpenStax College:  
<https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology>

**GET THIS BOOK >**

**Online Biology Book** is recommended as well if you do not understand an explanation in Concepts of Biology.  
<http://www2.estrellamountain.edu/faculty/farabee/biobk/biobooktoc.html>

2. **Understanding the Life of Point Loma** (2004) by Cabrillo National Monument Foundation. ISBN 0-941032-08-6
3. Other **required** reading material provided by the instructor. I will discuss this on the first day of class, and the information is also available on the course website under "Assigned Reading."
4. Admission fee may be required for some field trips – refer to schedule.
5. 882-ES scantrons (3)
6. There is a website for this course. Please check it weekly for class updates, handouts and other information.

## STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Please refer to Policy 3100:<http://www.sdmesa.edu/student-services/student-affairs/policies.shtml>

### Classroom Behavior And Student Code Of Conduct

7. It is expected that students will conduct themselves within the standards outlined in the student code of conduct, disciplinary procedure and student due process. Disciplinary action will be taken by the instructor as necessary.

#### Safety:

- ⇒ **Absolutely no food or drinks may be consumed in lab.**
- ⇒ **Closed toes shoes must be worn in order to participate in lab.**

8. On field trips:
  - (1) Obey all posted speed limits and watch for pedestrians.
  - (2) Cell phones may be used for photography and field ID only.
  - (3) Smoking poses a health and fire danger and is absolutely forbidden on site.
  - (4) Do not walk off the trail or collect any specimens of any type unless specifically directed to by the instructor.

### Attendance

9. Attendance for the entire class period in activities, class exercises and discussions is expected and will influence your grade.
10. Students will be dropped from the class for missing more than three (3) labs, even if they are excused.
11. It is the student's responsibility to make up missed material. This includes, but is not limited to, obtaining missed lecture notes from another student (not from the instructor), and finding out about any modifications of schedules or assignments announced during class time.

### Tardiness

12. Tardiness and early departure are disruptive to the class and your learning experience. Once you arrive, please remain seated until the lecture is over. The instructor will take steps to discourage tardiness or early departure as necessary.
13. The instructor is not required to accommodate students arriving late. If a tardy student comes to class to take an exam or test after another student has already taken the exam or test and left the room, the tardy student cannot take that exam or

test. If a student is late for a lab practical, that student will not be allowed into the classroom until the exam is over. Once an exam or test begins there are no bathroom or other breaks.

**Withdrawal**

14. It is your responsibility to officially drop the class if you stop attending. Not doing so will result in a grade of "F." Please discuss your plans to withdraw from class with me as I may be able to provide options that would allow you to continue the class.

**Important Dates**

Feb 18 Last day to process and pay for an add code  
 Last day to drop and get a refund  
 Last day to drop with no "W" recorded  
 Mar 9 Last day to file a petition for Pass/No Pass grade option  
 Apr 17 Withdrawal deadline – no drops accepted after this date and grades must be assigned for course  
 May 28 Final exam **NO EARLY FINALS WILL BE GIVEN**

HOLIDAYS ARE LISTED ON THE CLASS SCHEDULES

**Honest Academic Conduct**

15. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the assignment and will be reported to the School Dean and the Disciplinary Officer, and may result in further disciplinary action.

Academic dishonesty as defined in Policy 3100 includes

- cheating
- unauthorized collaboration, and
- plagiarism

**GRADING**

**Grading Policy**

A	90%
B	80%
C	70%
D	60%

**ASSESSMENTS**

**points/percent**

<b>lecture (75%)</b>	<b>750 = 75%</b>
exam 1	200 = 20%
exam 2	200 = 20%
exam 3	200 = 20%
pop quizzes	100 = 10%
homework (online)	50 = 5%

<b>lab (25%)</b>	<b>250 = 25%</b>
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see lab syllabus

**TOTAL COURSE POINTS = 1,000**

**Individual extra credit is not available.**

ASSESSMENTS ARE BASED ON MATERIAL PRESENTED IN CLASS AS WELL AS OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS, SUCH AS HOMEWORK.

## LECTURE ASSESSMENTS (75%)

### Lecture Exams (600 points)

may include multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank and short answer. There will be three (3) equally weighted unit exams. Refer to item (13) under "Tardiness." **Exams will include questions from the homework assignments.** You will need to bring an 882ES scantron, which can be purchased at the bookstore.

- Missed exams will receive a grade of zero (see below).
- No lecture exam grades are dropped.

### Pop Quizzes (100 points)

Approximately 10 unannounced ("pop") quizzes will be given throughout the semester. They may be multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank format. They may be given at the start of lecture on material from the previous lecture, or at the end of lecture on material from that day's lecture.

- Missed assignments will receive a grade of zero.
- Assignments can not be made up, but your lowest 2 grades will be dropped.

### Homework (50 points)

will be assigned for a grade approximately 14 times during the semester. You must submit your homework online. Further instructions will be provided in class and on the website. You will receive a point for completing the homework. Your overall percent score will be divided in half to determine your points out of 50. **You will have exam questions based on the homework.**

- Assignments will not be accepted late.
- Assignments can not be made up, but your lowest 2 grades will be dropped.
- Exams will include questions from the homework assignments.

## LAB (ASSESSMENTS 25%)

### Lab And Field Trip Worksheets (2 points each)

There is a worksheet due at the end of each lab or field trip.

- Missed or late worksheets will receive a grade of zero.
- Worksheets cannot be made up, but your lowest two (2) grades will be dropped.

### Lab Quizzes (15 points each)

may include identification, matching, multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank and short answer. Quizzes will be given in the first 10 minutes of lab except as noted on the schedule. Once a quiz begins there are no bathroom or other breaks.

- Missed lab quizzes will receive a grade of zero.
- Lab quizzes cannot be made up, but your lowest two (2) grades will be dropped.

## MISSED LECTURE EXAMS WILL RECEIVE A GRADE OF ZERO.

Because legitimate emergencies sometimes arise, there are a very few circumstances in which a lecture exam may be made up. For that to occur, the student must take full responsibility for meeting all of the following requirements.

- (1) There must be a legitimate emergency or illness.
- (2) You must contact the instructor as soon as you know you will miss the exam and take responsibility to make arrangements for a makeup.
- (3) Your excuse must be valid and your documentation appropriate in the view of the instructor.
- (4) Makeup lecture exams must be made up during the instructor's regularly scheduled office hours or by appointment within 6 calendar days (4 business days) of the actual exam date. Makeup exams may consist of any of the following question formats: oral questions, essay questions, or any format used in regular exams.

**PLEASE ADVISE ME IF YOU ARE A DSPS STUDENT OR NEED OTHER ACCOMMODATIONS FOR TEST TAKING.**