BIOL4265 BIOLOGY IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT 3.0, FALL 2018

Course Description

Official Calendar Course Description
This course summarizes our progress in conceptualizing, understanding and in solving large-scale ecological problems caused by the introduction of pollutants and exotic species to the environment.

Prerequisites (strictly enforced)

Prerequisites: SC/BIOL 2050 4.00, SC/BIOL 2060 3.00; or permission of the Instructor.

Course Instructor(s) and Contact Information

Dr. Christopher J. Lortie
218A Lumbers
Telephone: 416-736-2100 ext. 20588
e-mail: lortie@yorku.ca
Office hours: Generally available before and after WEDS class. Please email to set up an appointment.

Schedule

Date and Time: MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 11:30AM
Location: CB115
Course Session: FALL 2018 - Start date: September 5, 2018.
Course ID.: X78V01

Evaluation

Evaluation Components of Final Grade and related information.
Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.
Test 1. 40%
Test 2. 40%
Poster. 20%

Tests and poster must be submitted to turnitin.com. Please export all to PDF for submission.
Class ID: 18939841
Key: bio4enviro

Important Dates


Drop Deadline: Fri. Nov. 9, 2018 (last day to drop without course on transcript)
Course Withdrawal: Sat. Nov. 10 to Dec. 4, 2018 (course still appears on transcript with ‘W’)
NOTE for instructors: for additional important dates such as holidays, refer to the “Important Dates” section of the Registrar’s Website at http://www.yorku.ca/yorkweb/cs.htm
Resources
Links to peer-reviewed publications provided in class.

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Critically read environmental science peer-reviewed journal publications.
2. Reverse-engineer the critical reproducible science tools from most natural science peer-reviewed journal publications.
3. Appreciate the extent and scope of environmental challenges we face globally.
4. Explain the balance between direct human needs and environmental health.
5. Do a meta-analysis and systematic review.
6. Effectively communicate scientific synthesis findings for environmental management.
Course Content

All details and code for first model of course will be freely provided online by Dr. Lortie.

Outline (please note specific order of case-study topics may change in the first 6 weeks)
- Sept 5 intro to class
- Sept 10 & 12 pollinator declines & citizen science
- Sept 17 & 19 climate change & open science code
- Sept 24 & 26 invasive species & team science
- Oct 1 & 3 two-part test
- Oct 15 & 17 land use challenges & systematic reviews
- Oct 22 & 24 coastal habitat functioning & meta-analyses
- Oct 29 & 31 ocean health & mapping
- Nov 5 & 7 two-part test
- Nov 12 & 14 meta-analysis & how to do meta-analyses
- Nov 19 & 21 meta-analyses & how to design a good science poster
- Nov 26 & 28 poster sessions class & public

For each environmental management challenge case examined, students will be responsible for completing the three questions provided during class on Mondays. These questions are direct preparation for the two tests used to develop, consolidate, and evaluate critical environmental science thinking and problem solving associated with the first 3 learning outcomes listed above. The final third of the course is an opportunity to explore, in depth, an environmental management challenge of their choice, do a meta-analysis, and present in a poster session (learning outcomes 4-6).

Experiential Education and E-Learning

Numerous open science tools will be highlighted including R for statistics, twitter for scientific communication, slide deck repositories, and FigShare.

Other Information

EXPECTATIONS
All information presented in class is testable.
Teamwork, team science, collaboration, and open dialog is strongly encouraged and promoted in this course. However, effective scientific writing is also a critical professional skill we will develop. Consequently, students are provided time and opportunity to discuss all topics and research, but all final writing for weekly exercises and tests should be done independently. The submission service turnitin provides effective and comprehensive plagiarism checking, and students must thus ensure writing is done independently.

Course Policies
Alternative dates for assignments/evaluations are not available in this course. If documentation is provided for valid absences on test dates, accommodation will be granted in mutual discussion with the professors. To promote fairness and student responsibility, all in class exercises are due on the dates specified herein. A 20% penalty will be applied for the first day the exercise is late and 5% every day thereafter. Students who anticipate being unable to submit the exercises on the due date are encouraged to submit early. Grades on exercises and exams are not negotiable. Every reasonable action is made to ensure advance reminders are provided and instruction. Thus, the course director should only be contacted if there is calculation or clerical error present. The Document Submission
System must be used to submit all documentation associated with absences. 
https://science.apps01.yorku.ca/machform/view.php?id=84113
Students are not allowed to record lectures or lab tutorials using their own devices.

**University Policies**

**Academic Honesty and Integrity**
York students are required to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and they are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty (http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/). The Policy affirms the responsibility of faculty members to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to abide by such standards.
There is also an academic integrity website with comprehensive information about academic honesty and how to find resources at York to help improve students’ research and writing skills, and cope with University life. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website at - http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/

**Access/Disability**
York University is committed to principles of respect, inclusion and equality of all persons with disabilities across campus. The University provides services for students with disabilities (including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University.
Student's in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs.
Additional information is available at the following websites:
Counselling & Disability Services - http://cds.info.yorku.ca/
Counselling & Disability Services at Glendon - https://www.glendon.yorku.ca/counselling/
York Accessibility Hub - http://accessibilityhub.info.yorku.ca/

**Religious Observance Accommodation**
York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete and submit an Examination Accommodation Form at least 3 weeks before the exam period begins. The form can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

**Student Conduct in Academic Situations**
Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom and other academic settings, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. The policy and procedures governing disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available at - http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/disruptive-andor-harassing-behaviour-in-academic-situations-senate-policy/