

Biol 283

Ecology

Laboratory

Course Syllabus

Revised: 03/2018

Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office (place): \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Office Hours: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Course Section: \_\_                                         \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_

Course time and day: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_

Meeting Place:

**Mission Statement:**

“Delgado Community College prepares students from diverse backgrounds to attain their educational, career, and personal goals, to think critically, to demonstrate leadership and to be productive and responsible citizens.”

**Course Description:**

Field research in ecology. Emphasis on practical experience in a field setting looking at organismal interactions at the local mesohabitats and microhabitats.

**Course Goal**

Instructor, place goals/objectives here.

**Prerequisites**

 “C” or better in BIOL 141, 143.

**Corequisite(s)**

 BIOL 281 and 142, 144 or permission of instructor and department chair.

**Persons With Disabilities**

If you have a disability and need special accommodations, please arrange to discuss your particular needs with your instructor as soon as possible. It is the general policy of Delgado Community College to assure equal opportunity for all qualified persons. Reasonable accommodation for qualified persons with disabilities will be made, provided the students have self-identified with the **Office of Disability Services (phone 504-671-5161)** and have provided required documentation. Individual instructors will modify the methods, requirements, and procedures, of courses and examinations appropriately to accommodate the special needs of students with disabilities provided the academic integrity of the course or examination is not violated, and the health and welfare of all students are safeguarded.

**Title IX Statement**

Title IX Statement: Delgado Community College is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which sexual violence against men and women is not tolerated. Intervening in such instances helps to foster a safe environment for all, while sending a message that his kind of behavior will not be tolerated and is unacceptable in our community. As part of its commitment to providing an educational environment free from discrimination, Delgado Community College complies with Title IX of the Education Amendments, which prohibits discrimination and harassment based upon sex in an institution’s education programs and activities. Title IX prohibits sexual harassment, including sexual violence, of students at Delgado Community College sponsored activities and programs whether occurring on-campus or off-campus. For more information on confidential advisors:

<http://www.dcc.edu/title-9/default.aspx>

**Text**

Ecology Laboratory Manual (2010) by Darrell S. Vodopich. McGraw-Hill. ISBN: 978-0-07-338318-

**Course Content**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Lab Exercise | Title |
| **1** | The Nature of Data |
| **3** | Soil Analysis |
| **5** | Population Growth |
| **6** | Age Distribution and Survivorship |
| **7** | Terrestrial Plant Community Assessment |
| **9** | Micro Community Assessment |
| **10** | Sampling a Plant Community |
| **11** | Sampling Animal Communities |
| **12** | Species Diversity |
| **13** | Primary Production in an Aquatic Community |
| **14** | Competition |

Sequence of labs may change if necessary.

**Tests**

Instructor, place information on tests here.

* There is no comprehensive final exam.

**Testing Policies**

* If you leave during an exam or quiz, your instructor may **not allow** you to resume the assignment upon your return.
* Cellular phones and electronic communication devices (including translators) can NOT be used **or** out on the desk.
* Caps and hats that conceal any portion of the student’s face must be removed (or altered).
* To avoid suspicion, do not communicate with other students. If you have a question, please ask your instructor or the proctor.

Your instructor may provide you with tentative test dates. Please note that test dates may be **subject to alteration**, including advancement or postponement. **Students must take their exam during the time allocated for the section they are enrolled.** Final exam times are listed in the **Student Handbook**. Your instructor will confirm the date, time and location

**Assessment**

Assessment will include three exams and may include quizzes, graded lab exercises, lab reports, and participation.

**Midterm grades will reflect only a fraction of the work required to pass the course, it may not be genuine predictor of your final grade.**

* All exam and quiz materials are the property of the instructor and may not be removed from the classroom or office without permission.
* Instructors cannot give out grades over the phone or by e-mail and they are not permitted to discuss your grades in front of other students. Instructors cannot give any of your grades to other students.
* If you are not present on the day grades are returned, will need to make arrangements to stop by your instructor’s office in order to pick up your grade.
* Instructors are **NOT** required to return test or quiz questions or scantrons and papers. If you wish to review the materials, you must make arrangements with your instructor outside of the classroom period to review these items.
* Instructors will **NOT** correct for poor erasures on any Scantron form filled out by the student.
* **Don’t throw away any graded material until you receive your final course grade**. If a mistake is made on your grade, if the instructor dies, if the instructor loses grades, or other unforeseen event takes place you may need the graded material for proof of your grade. These events are very rare but it is best to keep track of your grades just in case.
* Your mid-term and final course grade may be accessed by logging on to LoLa.

**If you believe your final grade to be in error, your first step is to contact the instructor as soon as possible**.

 **To Access Grades on the Internet**

* To access your official midterm and final grade through the internet, go to [http://www.dcc.edu](http://www.dcc.edu/) and log into the LOLA/Banner registration System
* Your username and password are sent to your official DCC e-mail.
* Some instructors will use *Canvas*to post scores from quizzes, tests, and assignments. This is not the official grade for the course.
* If you have problems logging on to the system, send an e-mail support@lcts.edu or call 866-217-8819

**Grade Appeal**

* If you feel like there has been a mistake with your grade, the first step is to discuss it with your professor.
* Only final grades may be challenged or appealed. The challenged procedure must be completed before any appeal process is initiated. The procedure for challenging a final grade can be found in the Delgado Community College Catalog under Academic Policies.

**Grading Structure**

Grading is based on a standard 10 point scale:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 90% to 100% | A | Outstanding |
| 80% to below 90% | B | Very Good |
| 70% to below 80% | C | Satisfactory |
| 60% to below 70% | D | Below Average |
| Below 60% | F | Unsatisfactory |
| Nonattendance after 7/14th Day | FN | Failure for Non-Participation |

**FN grade is for not sufficient participation or attendance.**

At midterm, all instructors are required to assign an FN grade to each student for whom the instructor identifies as not meeting the requirement for sufficient participation, to be successful in the course. The FN does not mean an earned failure grade; the FN means the instructor is unable to determine an earned grade.

If a student receives FNs in **ALL** enrolled classes at midterm, the student will be unofficially withdrawn from the College by the College Registrar. Students who are unofficially withdrawn from the College due to ALL FNs at midterm may request reinstatement through the Reinstatement Procedures as outlined in the current College Catalog.

If a student does not receive ALL FNs at midterm, he or she remains enrolled in the classes (not dropped). A student with an FN in a class at midterm (not dropped) may return to the class; however, the instructor is not required to provide make-up provisions for missed coursework.

**How Grades Are Calculated**

Your Instructor will explain grade calculation or give an addendum.

**THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP TESTS or FINAL EXAM.**

**Attendance and Withdrawal**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attendance is mandatory and roll will be taken. Any student that has not attended within the first 14th days (7th day in summer) will be withdrawn from the course. After the 14th day (7th day in summer), students are responsible to withdraw themselves. Withdrawal from class after the 14th day (7th day in the summer) is the sole responsibility of the student. Any student that does not withdraw and does not attend will be assigned a grade of “F” for the semester. Any student who is not present when roll is taken will be considered absent from that class. You are responsible for any information you miss due to an absence. An absence from a previous lecture does not excuse you from any work that you missed nor from any quiz or exam following your absence. **Academic Dishonesty**Academic dishonesty, such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion may result in disciplinary action, including failure of the exam or dismissal from the course.Examples of academic dishonesty include, but not limited to:1. Disclosing the contents of the test to any other person
2. Looking at or copying from another student’s paper or allowing another student to copy from one's paper.
3. Talking/communicating with another student during the test.
4. Consulting persons outside the room during the test.
5. Copying questions, answers, or choices from the test during the exam or while reviewing the exam.
6. f. Accessing or using a communication device (PDA, cell phone, etc.) during an exam.
 |  |

College and Classroom Policies

1. **If you are late and fail to answer roll or sign in, you will be marked as absent. Once marked absent, the instructor is not required to mark you present or tardy. If you are late for any quiz or exam, the instructors IS NOT obligated to allow you to take the assignment or receive additional time.**
2. You are expected to be in class on time. Class will begin at the designated hour. Students entering class late can be very disturbing. Continued disturbances may result in the instructor locking the door baring late students from entering until after lecture.
3. There are no makeup homework assignments, quizzes, or exams. Instructors are not obligated to accept late work.
4. You are expected to come to class prepared. This means that you have studied information from the previous lectures, have read the text materials, and have completed any assigned work.
5. **Married Students** - If there is the possibility of a discrepancy between your maiden and married name in the Delgado computer system, PLEASE inform your instructor as soon as possible.
6. **Enrollment** - If you find yourself enrolled in a science course that is too difficult for your preparation and background, you may change to a lower level course within the FIRST TWO weeks (one week during the summer semester).
7. **NO** changes are permitted after this period for any reason. It is the student's responsibility to "catch up" on any material that has been missed due to any such change.
8. **English Composition** - You are expected to use correct spelling and grammar on all work turned in for grading.
9. **Academic Dishonesty** -Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, or collusion, may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.
10. **Electronic Devices** –

Tape Recorders: Ask permission to use tape recorders for your personal use. Any material recorded should not be posted or sold on the internet.

Video Recording: Is not allowed under any circumstances.

Cellular phones should not ring or beep in class. If you are expecting an emergency phone call, ask the instructor for permission to leave your phone or beeper turned on.

1. **Safety -** If the fire alarm should sound during class, gather your personal belongings, turn in any exam or quiz, and then exit the classroom following the directions of the instructor.
2. If the school should lose electrical power, remain stationary. The instructor will provide instructions as to the next step to take. Cancellation of the remainder of any lecture class period due to power outage or fire alarm is the option of the instructor.
3. Do not assume that the school or class has been canceled due to weather, fire alarms, or temporary power outages.
4. Children are not allowed in lecture rooms or laboratories and are not to be left unattended in the hallway.
5. **Instructors are required to take off points for misspelling, incorrect grammar, incorrect terminology, and incomplete answers. Correct spelling of terms is necessary at all times.**
6. Students are expected to wait for their instructor. Many times an instructor is inadvertently delayed, if such a delay occurs students are expected to wait 10 minutes for a 50 minute lecture, 15 minutes for a 75 minute lecture, and 30 minutes for a 3 hour lecture. If a longer delay is necessary students will be advised. Students will not be penalized for leaving after waiting the appropriate length of time.
7. Please check the current academic calendar for the correct dates:
	1. To change sections.
	2. To change from credit to audit or audit to credit.
	3. For the date that mid-term grades will be posted.
	4. For the final date to drop a course with a “W”, or to withdraw from school.

Science Resource Lab (CP01 126W Annex) Policy:

The Science Resource Lab is specifically designed to help students in the remedial or technical Biological Sciences. However, the reference manuals, books, slides and models available are suitable for most of the Biological Sciences taught at Delgado. These materials are available for additional study in this lab. Tutors will be available at specified hours. Operating hours for the lab will be posted outside the lab as soon as possible. If you are making a special trip to the lab, please call 483-1856 to make sure the lab is open. Some faculty volunteers may also be available. **This lab does not provide a quiet distraction free environment and tutors or faculty may not be able to provide you specific assistance.**  Students desiring to study in a quiet distraction free environment are encouraged to use the Library. Food and drinks are not permitted in the lab and cell phones should be turned off. No models or slides may be removed from the learning lab or taken from the teaching labs and used in the Resource lab.

**Classroom Concerns**

Students having concerns about their class are encouraged to meet with their instructor first. If an understanding cannot be reached then students should make an appointment to speak with the department chair. Students whose instructors miss an excessive number of classes should promptly contact the department chair.

**Please review your *College Catalog* for additional information pertaining to College policies, student behavior, and the official College calendar.**

Delgado Community College is committed to providing a positive learning and working environment for its students and employees. The College assures equal opportunity for all persons without regard to race, color, religious or political affiliation, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship, national origin, age, disability, marital status or veteran's status, pregnancy, child birth and related medical conditions, and the sickle cell trait in the admission to, participation in, or employment in the programs and activities of the College.

**General Lab Safety Contract**

**Sign up for Delgado Alert: http://www.dcc.edu/student-services/e2campus/signup.aspx**

Emergency Alarm:

1. When the Emergency Alarm Sounds: “Get up. Get out. Get Away.”
	1. Turn off any equipment you are working with.
	2. Exit the lab immediately. DO NOT take time to gather personal belongings. (Doors automatically lock when closed; only Campus Police and Emergency Personnel will have access to the rooms during emergency evacuations.)
	3. Exit the building and walk to the distant sidewalks near City Park Avenue or Orleans Ave.
	4. DO NOT attempt to reenter or approach the building until Campus Police have given the all clear to do so.

Power Outages:

1. In the event that electrical power is lost:
	1. Remain stationary until the emergency lighting illuminates the hallways.
	2. Once the emergency lighting is on, follow your instructor’s directions to exit the lab.
	3. Remain in the lighted hallways until normal power has been returned or classes are officially cancelled.

Lab Dress Code:

1. Shoes: Closed toe shoes with non-slip soles required. Students without appropriate foot wear will be instructed to leave the lab.
2. Hair: Hair must be secured in a manner which prevents hair from falling onto face. Long hair is to be pulled back and secured.

Personal Safety

1. NO: gum chewing, eating, drinking, smoking/e-cigarettes in the lab.
2. Personal belongings (purses, backpacks, etc.) must be placed beneath the student work station.
3. DO NOT hang purses or back packs on the back of the lab stools.
4. DO NOT lean back in lab stools.

Laboratory Activity Safety

1. Wear PPE (personal protective equipment) as directed by instructor (goggles, gloves, apron.)
2. Never insert anything into an electrical outlet except for a plug designed for that purpose.
3. Always carry microscopes with two hands: one beneath the base and the other on the arm of the microscope.
4. Always carry models with two hands.
5. Always place microscopes/models on work stations in a manner in which they are level and away from the edge of the work station.
6. Do not open any containers unless directed to do so by the instructor.
7. Do not taste or sniff chemicals; do not bring chemicals in contact with face (eyes, nose, and/or mouth).
8. Do not mix chemicals unless directed to do so by the instructor; do not use chemicals from unlabeled containers.
9. Use caution when using dissecting needles, scissors, scalpels, or other laboratory tools and/or equipment.
10. Do not perform any unauthorized or unsupervised experiments in the lab.

Accidents/Injuries/Spills

1. Immediately report any accident and/or injury to your instructor.
2. In case any chemical splashes into the eye(s):
	1. Obtain eye wash and flush eye(s) with the entire bottle of eye wash.
	2. DO NOT rub or put pressure on the eye(s).
	3. DO NOT attempt to remove a foreign object from the eye.
3. Immediately report spills to your instructor. Follow instructor’s direction for proper spill cleanup.

Lab Housekeeping

1. Carefully place **ONLY** broken glass and scalpel blades in the glass disposal box.
2. Dispose of liquid waste in the appropriate waste receptacles.
3. Return supplies to the prep station.
4. Clean student work station.
5. Place lab stools under work station prior to exiting the lab.

The above General Lab Safety Rules have been read to me and I understand all of the safety rules contained on this sheet. I agree to read all rules for specific exercises contained in the laboratory manual and/or laboratory handouts required for this course. I understand that it is my responsibility to follow the safety rules contained in this publication as well as those contained in the lab manual and/or laboratory handouts during the lab.

I understand that all chemicals are potentially dangerous; therefore I understand that I am to handle all chemicals in safe manners as per instructor’s directions, as contained in this publication, and as well as those contained in the lab manual and/or laboratory handouts. I understand that should I have any questions regarding the safe use, handling and/or disposal of any chemical that I am to seek directions from my instructor.

If I have a medical condition such as, but not limited to, hypo- or hyperglycemia, diabetes, epilepsy, pregnancy, heart ailments, or any other medical condition which may cause sudden loss of consciousness, I certify that I am under a doctor’s care and that my doctor has given me explicit permission to participate in this laboratory course. I will inform my instructor of my condition at the beginning of the semester, or as soon as I am aware of the existence of a medical condition.

I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM PERMITTED TO WORK IN THE LABORATORY ONLY WHEN IT IS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A LABORATORY INSTRUCTOR, UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INFORMED OTHERWISE.

Sign both copes of this form. Retain one copy in your laboratory notebook. Submit one signed copy to your instructor.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Course Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Section Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Laboratory Room Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Print)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Laboratory Instructor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.