

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
CREDIT COURSE NOT APPLICABLE TO THE A.A. DEGREE

(Use this form only for courses which do not apply to the A.A. Degree)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Biology 45A Field Studies in Natural History

UNIT VALUE: .5, 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, or 3 Units

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 16, 32, 48, 64, 80, or 96 Hours

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language and computational skills.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS None

PREREQUISITE:

COREQUISITE:

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION:

SCOPE OF COURSE:

Field studies of plant and animal species encountered in various habitats, including systematics and major structural and functional characteristics of the taxonomic groups to which these species belong, and emphasizing each species' particular adaptations that favor its survival in its natural habitat. *Designed for families. Recommended for children between the ages of 8-14. Parents must accompany children. See Class Schedule or contact the Life Sciences Department for locality to be visited, and more information. Fee charged. (May be taken four times)*

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Successful students will:

1. experience different biota and habitats throughout the world;
2. analyze a variety of living organisms in relation to their natural habitats;

3. practice field identification of plant and animal species, by the use of check lists, keys and field guides;
4. compile field observations of those organisms, especially with respect to species distribution and relative abundance, growth habit, and adaptations for obtaining nutrients, self-protection, and successful reproduction; and
5. participate effectively in class discussions of the natural history of the species under investigation.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

Each field class may have a different itinerary and cover different geographical regions and habitats in which natural history varies.

However, a common body of knowledge would include an understanding of the following:

- I. Biota and Habitat types.
- II. Relationships of life forms to their various habitats.
- III. Use of checklists, keys and taxonomic guides.
- IV. Species distribution, relative abundance, growth habit, and adaptations for obtaining nutrients, self-protection and successful reproduction.
- V. Natural history of species observed.

REQUIRED READING:

Age appropriate references, including periodical and book sources. Varies according to the locale; a traveling library of natural history field guides and references will be brought to the class for use in identification and study purposes. Other material, such as instructor-generated handouts may also be required readings.

Example: Barber, Nancy. Palau. San Francisco: Full Court Press, 1990.

SUGGESTED READING:

A large selection of suggested readings is available to students (e.g., natural history texts as well as other appropriate location-oriented field guides).

REQUIRED WRITING:

A field notebook - "LOG" - is required of all students. Writings in the log should include: abiotic and biotic parameters observed, as well as associations and behaviors studied, and a record of species identified. The quantity of writing will vary with the number of units; a minimum of 12 pages or 2,000 words of writing per unit is expected. Proper grammar and linguistic style are required.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Outside reading assignments include: predeparture readings in text and other course materials, as well as readings of course materials during trip, study of lecture notes, and preparation and review of field log. All students may be required to do a presentation on some biological topic related to region studied.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

DISTANCE LEARNING:

This course may be offered as a distance learning course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply.

- Television Course (Video one-way, e.g. ITV, video cassette, etc.)
- Online Course (Text one-way, e.g. newspaper, correspondence, electronic file, etc.)
- Two-Way Video Conferencing (Two-way interactive video and audio)
- One-Way Video Conferencing (One-way interactive video and two-way interactive audio)
- Computer Assisted Instruction (A specialized form of mediated instruction relying primarily on student access to information and prepared lessons or teaching materials through a computer terminal, but not under immediate supervision of a qualified instructor.)

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

Presentation	= 20%
Participation in the daily class activities	= 40%
Writings including the "log" (field journal)	= 40%
TOTAL	=100%

IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?

Yes No Number of times course may be taken for credit: 4

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

CONTACT PERSON: DAN SOURBEER, x.2775

SIGNATURES ON FILE