

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 45B - Field Studies in Ecology

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 study of the fauna and biota of selected geographic regions, with emphasis placed upon field identification, observation and interpretation of behavioral and ecological interrelationships of living things to their environment and to one another. *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 various ecosystems throughout the world, and gain appreciation of the beauty and complexity of areas relatively unimpacted by human activities;
2. identify plants and animals of the ecosystems under investigation;

3. analyze and use basic techniques of ecological observation and mensuration so as to elucidate the interrelationships of various species with one another and with their physiochemical habitat;
4. attempt to assess the impact of human activities within the study area, and the effectiveness of preservation programs in the area;
5. observe the complexities of natural environments in which plants and animals live and as a result will be able to analyze, discuss, compare and contrast the various environmental factors that contribute to the ecology of species under investigation in specific habitats visited.
6. 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. Major identifying features of each type of ecosystem.
- II. Plant and animals of an ecosystem and how to identify them.
- III. Basic techniques of ecological observation and how they are used to understand interrelationships of species and their habitats.
- IV. Understanding of the complexities of natural environments and environmental factors that contribute the ecology of a species in its' habitat.
- 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: Smith, R.L. Elements of Ecology and Field Biology. New York: Harper & Row, 1977.

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:

SIGNATURES ON FILE

CONTACT PERSON: DAN SOURBEER, x.2775