

FORM VERSION: 5/95
DATE REVISED: September 25, 1998

PALOMAR
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

x Transfer course X A.A. degree applicable course

(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Biology 195A Field Studies in Natural History

UNIT VALUE: 1, 2 or 3 **MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS:** 32, 64, 96

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. *See Class Schedule for locality to be visited. Fee charged.*

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The 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. demonstrate a knowledge of field identification of plant and animal species, by the use of check lists, keys and field guides.
4. develop skill in compiling 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.

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:

1. Biota and Habitat types.
2. Relationships of life forms to their various habitats.
3. Use of checklists, keys and taxonomic guides.
4. Species distribution, relative abundance, growth habit, and adaptations for obtaining nutrients, self-protection and successful reproduction.
5. Natural history of species observed.

REQUIRED READINGS:

College-level references including periodical and book sources. Varies according to the locale; a travelling 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 READINGS:

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 WRITINGS:

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:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes. 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.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

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

Lecture-laboratory; in-depth field study.

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

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS:

Participation in the daily class activities = 60%
 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: 58161(c)(2)(B)

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