

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course A.A. degree applicable course

(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: Biology 195B - Field Studies in Ecology

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

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The successful student 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. be stimulated to further study nature.
6. be able to understand 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.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

Each field class may have a different itinerary and cover different geographical regions and habitats yielding a variety of ecosystems. However, a common body of knowledge would include ecology of the region visited including:

1. Major identifying features of each type of ecosystem.
2. Plant and animals of an ecosystem and how to identify them.
3. Basic techniques of ecological observation and how they are used to understand interrelationships of species and their habitats.
4. Understanding of the complexities of natural environments and environmental factors that contribute to the ecology of a species in its' habitat.

REQUIRED READINGS:

College-level references including periodical and book sources. Varies according to locale; a travelling library of field guides and references on ecology will be brought to the class for use in identification and expanding upon the field log. 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 READINGS:

A large selection of suggested readings is available to students (e.g., texts by Audubon, Peterson guides as well as other 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, 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 times

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)

CONTACT PERSON:

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