

General Information:

Course Ecology BIOL3304  
Instructor E. J. Stewart, Jr. Ph.D.  
Office Phone 8090  
E-mail [stewart@lindsey.edu](mailto:stewart@lindsey.edu)  
Office 225, Fugitte Building  
Office Hours Posted

Course Information:**3304 Ecology 4 credit hours**

The course concentrates on fundamental principles of ecology including succession, population and community ecology. Laboratory has a strong field component that emphasizes various data collection methods, identification of local flora and fauna, and statistical analysis. It requires independent effort and may exceed scheduled time. **Prerequisites:** Junior standing and one year of biology. Course Rotation: Fall, odd years.

Required Texts

Ricklefs, Robert E. 2010. The Economy of Nature, 6<sup>th</sup>. ed. W. H. Freeman and Co. NY. 620pp.

Signature Assignment: Student Learning Outcomes (1.1, & 2.1)

Enhancement and reinforcement of the scientific method through a field study of plant diversity in three different ecological zones using 100 meter transect method. (Cumulative experience)

**Student Learning Outcomes (Institutional)**

1. Develop fundamental skills of inquiry and analysis:  
Describe the relationship between anatomical structures and their function
2. Learn to apply and integrate knowledge  
Require students to identify and name structures with precision.
3. Gain depth of knowledge  
Focus on testing a student's vocabulary use, ability to name structures

**Student Learning Outcomes (Departmental)**

Mastery of the core  
Demonstration of basic laboratory skills and field techniques  
Application of the scientific  
Communication in an acceptable scientific manner

## Required Assignments

The course requires participation and completion of:

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| a. 4 criterion referenced exams                       | 400 points        |
| b. active participation in a field study              | 100 points        |
| c. writing and presenting a report of the field study | <u>200 points</u> |
|   | 700 total         |

## Grades

630 – 700	A
560 – 629	B
490 – 559	C
420 – 489	D
<420	F

(+, -, grades will be assigned at the discretion of the professor)

Signature assignment: Cumulative experience scored against Biology Lab Rubric

**LINDSEY WILSON COLLEGE**  
**STATEMENTS FOR INCLUSION IN THE SYLLABUS**  
**2013-2014**

**Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is essential to the existence of an academic community. Every student is responsible for fostering a culture of academic honesty, and for maintaining the integrity and academic reputation of Lindsey Wilson College. Maintaining a culture that supports learning and growth requires that each student make a commitment to the fundamental academic values: honesty, integrity, responsibility, trust, respect for self and others, fairness and justice.

To foster commitment to academic integrity, faculty are asked to require each student to place and sign the following Honor Code on tests, exams and other assignments as appropriate: **On my honor as a student, I have neither given nor received any unauthorized aid on this assignment/exam.**

Violations of the academic integrity policy include cheating, plagiarism or lying about academic matters. Plagiarism is defined as any use of another writer's words, concepts, or sequence of ideas without acknowledging that writer by the use of proper documentation. Not only the direct quotation of another writer's words, but also any paraphrase or summary of another writer's concepts or ideas without documentation is plagiarizing that writer's materials. Academic dishonesty is a profoundly serious offense because it involved an act of fraud that jeopardizes genuine efforts by faculty and students to teach and learn together. It is not tolerated at Lindsey Wilson College.

Students who are determined to have plagiarized an assignment or otherwise cheated in their academic work or examinations may expect an "F" for the activity in question or an "F" for the course, at the discretion of the instructor. All incidents of cheating or plagiarism are reported by the instructor to the Academic Affairs Office along with copies of all relevant materials. Each instance of cheating or plagiarism is counted separately. A student who cheats or plagiarizes in two assignments or tests during the same semester will be deemed guilty of two offenses. If the evidence is unclear, or if a second offense occurs, the VP for Academic Affairs or Associate Dean will work in cooperation with the Dean of Students to move the student before the campus Judicial Board for review. Violations will ordinarily result in disciplinary suspension or expulsion from the College, depending on the severity of the violation involved. **Note:** The College has purchased Turnitin.com, a web product used to detect plagiarized documents.

**Questioning a Grade -- The Student Academic Complaint Policy**

A student, who wishes to question **an assignment grade, or other academic issue**, should follow the procedure below:

1. Whenever possible, the student will first go to the faculty member who has assigned the disputed grade. Complaints regarding grades should be made within seven (7) days of receipt of the disputed grade and, if possible, will be decided by the faculty member within seven (7) days of receipt. If the disputed grade is the final grade for the course, "receipt" is defined by when the final grade is posted online by the registrar. (Please refer to the next section for appealing a final grade.)
2. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the student may, within seven (7) days request in writing a review of such decision by the Chair of the division in which the grade was assigned. Upon receipt of such request, that Chair will direct the faculty member and the student to each submit, within seven (7) days, if possible, a written account of the incident, providing specific information as to the nature of the dispute.

3. Upon receipt of these written accounts, the Chair will meet, if possible, within seven (7) days with the faculty member and the student in an effort to resolve the dispute and will render his or her decision in writing.
4. If either the student or the faculty member desires to appeal the decision of the Division Chair, the student or faculty member may, within seven (7) days by written request to the chair, ask that the matter be reviewed by a Grade Appeals Panel convened by the Academic Affairs Office.
5. If the disputed grade is assigned at the end of a fall or spring semester and the student and faculty member cannot meet to resolve the issue, the student should contact the faculty member by e-mail within seven (7) days of receipt of the disputed grade. If the issue cannot be resolved by e-mail within the time limit, steps 2, 3 and 4 of the appeal may extend into the beginning of the semester immediately following receipt of the disputed grade by following the timeline above.

A student who wishes to question a **final grade** should follow the procedure below:

1. Confer with the faculty member who assigned the disputed grade.
2. If the disputed grade cannot be resolved, a written request for a grade appeal must be submitted to the Academic Affairs Office before the first day of the semester following the one in which the grade was issued. The written request must include the specific basis for the appeal.
3. The Academic Affairs Office will convene a Grade Appeals Panel, comprised of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Associate Academic Dean, and the chair of the academic unit which houses the course for which the grade is appealed. If one of the members is the faculty member who issued the grade, an alternate will be appointed. The student and the faculty member may appear separately before the panel to explain their positions. The hearing is non-adversarial. Neither the faculty member nor the student may be accompanied by other individuals to the meeting of the Grade Appeals Panel. The Grade Appeals Panel will notify the student of its decision, if possible, within seven (7) days of the meeting.

### **Policy for Verification of Student Identity and Protection of Privacy**

In compliance with United States Federal Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA), Public Law 110-315, all credit-bearing courses and programs offered through distance learning methods must verify that the student who registers for a distance education course or program is the same student who participates in and completes the course or program and receives academic credit. One or more of the following methods must be used:

- a) A secure login and pass code;
- b) Proctored examinations; and/or
- c) Remote proctoring of one of more examinations using Tegrity or other technologies

Verification of student identity in distance learning must protect the privacy of student information. Personally identifiable information collected by the College may be used, at the discretion of the institution, as the basis for identity verification. For instance, a student requesting that their learning system password be reset may be asked to provide two or more pieces of information for comparison with data on file. It is a violation of College policy for a student to give his or her password to another student.

Detailed information on privacy may be located at:

<http://www.lindsey.edu/media/319883/Online%20Services%20Privacy%20Policy%204.20.12.pdf>

### **Institutional Review Board (IRB) Policies**

The Lindsey Wilson College Institutional Review Board (IRB) safeguards the rights and welfare of human participants in research and other research activities. Lindsey Wilson College faculty, staff, and students, which comprise its academic units, and facilities, are subject to the IRB policies. This includes any research for which a research agreement (e.g. MOU) identifies Lindsey Wilson College

Institutional Review Board (IRB) as the IRB of record. All student-led human subject research must have a LWC faculty sponsor. All faculty members and students conducting human subject research are required to submit documentation of training on research involving human subjects that has been completed within two years of the onset of the proposed research. Online training is available at <http://php.nihtraining.com/users/login.php>.

### **Statement on Learning/Physical Disabilities**

Lindsey Wilson College accepts students with learning disabilities and provides reasonable accommodation to help them be successful. Depending on the nature of the disability, some students may need to take a lighter course load and may need more than four years to graduate. Students needing accommodation should apply as early as possible, usually before May 15. Immediately after acceptance, students need to identify and document the nature of their disabilities. It is the responsibility of the student to provide to the College appropriate materials documenting the learning disability, usually a recent high school Individualized Education Program (IEP) and results from testing done by a psychologist, psychiatrist, or qualified, licensed person. The College does not provide assessment services for students who may be learning disabled. Although LWC provides limited personal counseling for all students, the College does not have structured programs available for students with emotional or behavioral disabilities. For more information, call Ben Martin at 270-384-7479.

### **Academic Success Center**

The Academic Success Center, located in the Everett Building, offers peer tutoring to aid students in completing class assignments, preparing for exams and improving their understanding of content covered in a particular course. In addition, computers are available for student use.

Students are encouraged to utilize this Center as a resource for improving study strategies and reading techniques. The Center also offers assistance with other academic problems resulting from documented learning disabilities. All services are free of charge to all Lindsey Wilson College students (students with learning disabilities are responsible for providing documentation from an appropriate outside professional source such as a professional evaluation or school IEP). Please contact Maretta Garner, Tutor Coordinator at 384-8037 for further information and assistance.

### **Writing Center and Mathematics Center**

The Writing Center (located in the Slider Humanities & Fine Arts Building), and the Mathematics Center (located in the Fugitte Science Building) are available for specialized tutoring at no charge to students. Please contact Jared Odd, Writing Center Coordinator, at 384-8209 or Linda Kessler, Math Tutor Coordinator, at 384-8115 for further information and assistance.

### **Final Exams**

Final Exams for day classes are scheduled for the Fall 2013 semester on **December 9-13 and May 5-9** for the Spring 2014 semester. The academic calendar, which contains the schedule for finals, is in the College Catalog and course schedule listing. Please make any necessary flight arrangements **after** the final exam week. **Students will not be permitted to take early finals** unless extenuating circumstances exist. "Extenuating circumstance" means illness, a verified family emergency or participation in officially sponsored travel in support of an event arranged by the College. **Travel arrangements must be made in sufficient time** that tickets may be obtained after final exams and the semester is officially over. All requests for early finals must be made in person to the Academic Affairs Office.

**Email Policy**

All Lindsey Wilson College students are required to communicate with LWC faculty and staff via LWC (Lindsey.edu) email addresses only. Alternative email addresses should not be used when communicating with LWC faculty and staff.

**Cell Phone Policy**

Student cell phones will be off during class time unless prior arrangement is made with the instructor.

## Ecology Schedule

Aug	21	Course introduction, What is Ecology? (1)
	23	The Giants
	26	Field trip
	28	Life and the Physical Environment & Adaptations.... (2 and 3)
	30	Ecological succession and Community Development (19)
Sept	2	Field
	4	Community Structure (18) field
	6	"Florida Everglades"
	9	Field
	11	Population Growth and regulation (11)
	13	Physical Ecology (me
	16	Field
	18	Test review
	20	T1
	23	Field
	25	open
	27	Life Histories and Evolutionary Fitness, (Ch7)
	30	no meeting
Oct	2	Life Histories and Evolutionary Fitness, (Ch7)
	4	Sex and Evolution, Ch8,
	7	Family, Society, and Evolution, Ch9 lab clean data
	9	Distribution and Spatial Structure of Populations, Ch10
	11	Test 2
Break		
Nov	21	Species interactions (14) and Competition (16) First draft due
	23	Dynamics of Consumer-Resources Interaction (15)
	25	Competition (16)
	28	Competition (16) Evolution of Species Interactions (17) First draft returned
	30	Temporal and spatial dynamics of Populations,
	1	Energy in Ecosystems (22)
	4	Biodiversity (20) second draft
	6	Elements in Ecosystems (23)
	8	Prep Test3
	18	"The Galapagos Islands with Richard Dreyfuss" Final draft
	20	History of environmental law

22 Variation in the Environment, climate, Water, and Soil (4):  
Evolution and Adaptation. (6)

25 Temporal and Spatial Dynamics of populations (12)

27 The Biome Concept in Ecology, (5)

Thanksgiving

Dec 2 Ecologist in the Field  
4 Ecologist in the Field  
6 Owl Pellets

Finals Test 4 and Final Draft due