

Evolution

Instructor: Brice Noonan

Office: 502 Shoemaker

e-mail: bnoonan@olemiss.edu

Class time: M-F: 8:00 – 9:15 Office Hrs: By appointment

Text: Evolution (Futuyma, 4rd ed.)

Week 1	Chapter 1: <i>Evolutionary Biology</i>
Week 2	Chapter 2: <i>The Tree of Life</i> Chapter 3: <i>Natural Selection</i>
Week 3	Chapter 4: <i>Mutation and Variation</i>
Week 4	EXAM 1: Tuesday Feb. 11 (30 points) Chapter 5: <i>The Genetical Theory of Natural Selection</i>
Week 5	Chapter 6: <i>Phenotypic Evolution</i>
Week 6	Chapter 7: <i>Genetic Drift: Evolution at Random</i> Chapter 8: <i>Evolution in Space</i>
Week 7	Exam 2: Tuesday Mar. 3 (30 points) No class Mar. 5
Week 8	SPRING BREAK
Week 9	Chapter 9: <i>Species and Speciation</i> Chapter 10: <i>All About Sex</i>
Week 10	Chapter 11: <i>How to be Fit</i>
Week 11	Chapter 14: <i>The Evolution of Genes and Genomes</i> Exam 3: Thursday Apr. 2 (30 points)
Week 12	Chapter 16: <i>Phylogeny: The Unity and Diversity of Life</i>
Week 13	Chapter 17: <i>The History of Life</i>
Week 14	Chapter 18: <i>The Geography of Evolution</i>
Week 15	Chapter ??: <i>Lets see how far we get</i>
Finals Week	FINAL EXAM (60 points) Tuesday May 5 at 8AM

Grading:

Exams: 150 pts.

Quizzes & Activities: in class (40 pts.)

Attendance: 10 pts.



Course Description:

A study of current evolutionary theory, including systematics, with an examination of macroevolutionary patterns and microevolutionary processes.

This course is designed to present an overview of biological evolution. Students are introduced 1) to the historical context that gave rise to the various questions about order in the natural world to which evolution has proposed answers and the scientific reception of Darwin's ideas about the mechanisms of evolution, 2) to an up-to-date history of life, 3) to current evolutionary theory, and 4) to the ways in which evolutionary biologists go about gathering data to refute or support hypotheses derived from theory. Specific evolutionary studies are used to illustrate the application of theory as a tool for understanding natural systems. Thus, students are expected to become familiar with the conceptual models through which we attempt to understand complex biological systems, the facts upon which those models are based, and the processes through which we discover these facts.

Make up:

- Make up Quizzes and Exams are NOT given. The ONLY exception would be if you were admitted to the hospital.
- If you have a documented school function (marching band, game), you will need to provide documentation BEFORE the day of the exam.
- Quizzes are given (unannounced) at the beginning of class. If you come late (after the class has finished) you will not be allowed to take the quiz.

Students With Disabilities:

- University policy provides for reasonable accommodations to be made for students with verified disabilities on an individualized and flexible basis as specified under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).
- SDS provides classroom accommodations to all students on campus who disclose a disability, request accommodations, and who meet eligibility criteria. We do not have specialized programs for specific types of disabilities.
- It is the responsibility of any student with a disability who requests a reasonable accommodation to contact the Office of Student Disability Services (915-7128). SDS will then contact the instructor through the student by means of an Instructor Notification of Classroom Accommodations form.

Cheating:

- is a very bad idea. Cheaters will be assigned a 0 for the test in question.

Disclaimer:

The instructor retains the right to modify this syllabus during the semester. Students will be notified of modifications through their registered email address on Blackboard.

