

Course Policies and Overview of Assignments

Zoology 535, Spring Semester 2010

Professor Steve Carpenter, <srcarpen@wisc.edu>

Classroom: 250 Van Hise Hall

Course website: < <http://limnology.wisc.edu/courses/zoo535/>>

Office hours: I do not keep regular office hours, due to a busy schedule of meetings on campus and travel. The best way to contact me is through email, which I check at least once a day. Some questions can be handled by email. For other questions, please use email to schedule a meeting or a phone conversation.

Readings: Students are expected to read all the assigned text chapters and papers. The book is available at a discount online. The papers will be emailed to students prior to class.

Computing: All computer exercises run in the open-source packages Winbugs <<http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/welcome.shtml>> or R < <http://www.r-project.org/>>. Windows users will want to use the open-source editing tool for R called Tinn-R (<http://sourceforge.net/projects/tinn-r/>)

Feedbacks: Short reports are required for most of the computer exercises conducted during the class.

Research Project: Each student is expected to answer a research question using a model (or models). The project involves a preproposal, a proposal, an oral presentation, and a written report in the form of a scientific manuscript.

Teaching Module: Each student is expected to develop an open-source teaching module. A module consists of a text explanation and open-source computer programs for conducting the exercise. Examples are found on the course web site. Most students work in teams of two to develop a module.

Grading:

Participation in class discussion, knowledge of readings	100	
Feedbacks on computer exercises (8)	80	
Research preproposal	50	
Research proposal		100
Research project oral presentation	50	
Research project written report	100	
Teaching module		100
<u>Total</u>		<u>580 points</u>