

**BIOL 4700 Limnology
SECTION A
Fall SEMESTER 2013
DEPT. OF BIOLOGY;
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES;
VALDOSTA STATE UNIV.
CREDIT HOURS: 4**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Matthew Waters

OFFICE: BSC 1106

OFFICE HOURS – Tuesday and Thursday: 10-11, 2-3:15

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EMAIL: mwaters@valdosta.edu

LECTURE HOURS: TR 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM Bailey 2022

LAB HOURS: M 9:00AM-11:50PM Bailey 2073

REQUIRED TEXT: Textbook of Limnology: Lake And River Ecosystems, 3rd edition by Robert G. Wetzel

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A study of the physical, chemical, geological and biological aspects of inland waters (lakes, streams, rivers, lagoons and wetlands). **Prerequisites:** BIOL 1107, 1108 or equivalent.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES:

Valdosta State University (VSU) Department of Biology educational outcomes for this course include: numbers 1, 2, 3 (in part), and 5. University (VSU) educational outcomes for this course include: numbers 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE:

TOPIC

Introduction and History of Limnology
Origin and Shape of Lakes
Light and Thermal Layering
Community Ecology and Energy
Carbon Cycling and Nutrients
Streams
Human Impacts
Paleolimnology
Shallow Lake Limnology

In addition to these topics we will also be reading several journal articles supporting each topic as well as new directions in the field.

LECTURE EXAMS:

Lecture exams will be essay, short answer, and multiple choice. Exams are not strictly comprehensive, although you will need to know the previous material to answer some questions on the future exam(s). Later topics and concepts build on previously discussed material; thus, the course is much like a story that builds on previous chapters.

LABORATORY: More information about laboratory requirements/grading will be given as a separate handout.

COURSE POLICIES

You are expected to attend all lectures and labs. If a lecture is missed, **you** are responsible for obtaining any notes and handouts given that day. Reading of the appropriate lecture chapters and any lab materials should be completed **prior** to coming to class.

Assigned text material may be on the lecture exams; I will inform you during lecture as to the specific topics, tables, figures, and/or text pages for which you will be responsible.

GRADING POLICIES/ASSESSMENT

Lecture: 75% of Grade.

A. Three (3) lecture exams will be given during the semester, including the final exam. The final exam will **not** be strictly comprehensive (as noted earlier). Each exam is worth 100 points **Make-up exams are not an automatic right;** you must notify me within **24** hours of the missed exam, and provide a **valid reason**, or you will forfeit your opportunity for a make-up. The professor is the final judge of what is an acceptable excuse. You can only make up **one** exam.

B. Students will be asked to fill of worksheets on the journal articles read.
A total of 40 points

C. 3 times during the semester the students will be asked to write a one paragraph blog about a topic given by the professor. Each blog counts for 20 points for a total of 60 points.

Lecture: 3 Tests (100 points)	300
Journal worksheets	40
Blogs	60
Lecture Total	400

Laboratory: Total lab points are converted to the equivalent 100 points. The **lab is worth 25% of your final grade to coincide with a 4 credit hour upper division biology course with lab.** Lecture and lab are **not** separate grades; one grade is given for the course.

You must turn off CELL PHONES, PAGERS, or ANY OTHER TYPE OF COMMUNICATION DEVICE BEFORE ENTERING LECTURE AND LAB
Anyone accessing these devices DURING AN EXAM will be given a zero for that exam grade. The student may be subject to further discipline, up to and including, permanent dismissal and failure of the class. There will be no exceptions to the rules stated in this paragraph and the two paragraphs immediately preceding it.

Midterm: October 3: is the last day to drop the class with a passing grade (WP) regardless of your point total. You cannot drop the class after midterm unless there are extenuating circumstances that must be acceptable to the Professor, Biology Department Head, Dean of Arts and Sciences, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Final grades are determined as a percentage of total points possible (400):
(90-100%) =A
(80-89%) =B
(70-79%) =C
(60-69%) =D
(below 60%) =F

Extra Credit: I DO NOT give extra credit. Please do not ask!

Cheating: Cheating is not permitted. Any student caught cheating on a lecture or lab exam will receive a failing grade (**F**) for the course, and will be reported to the Dean of Student Affairs. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: possessing written information on paper, body parts, clothes, etc. pertaining to the exam; accessing cell phones, pagers, or other electronic communication devices; unauthorized entry to the lab after a practical has been set up; as well as other means not specifically listed above.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA; also known as the Buckley Amendment): *By law*, it is not legal to release personal information about an individual to others. This means that grades, averages, test scores, and other information can only be released to that individual; thus, **exam scores, point totals, or final grades will not be issued in any unsecure manner, such as being posted, given verbally via telephone, or emailed. This is to ensure your privacy.** Emails inquiring about the matters listed above will be politely ignored.

Students with Disabilities: Students requiring special classroom accommodations or modifications because of **documented** disabilities should discuss these needs with the professor at the beginning of the semester. Disabled students not registered with the Access Office for Students with Disabilities should contact the program officer. Phone numbers are listed in the Campus Directory.