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## Teaching Team

Professors: See Academic Timetable.

Instructor: Allison Schmidt      LSC-4015      494-1638      *Allison.Schmidt@dal.ca*

## Lectures & Labs

Lecture times: M W F 10:35-11:25, Room: See Academic Timetable

Labs/Tutorials: Room 4009 - LSC (4<sup>th</sup> floor, Biology)

Sessions:	Monday (winter only):	14:35-16:25
	Tuesday:	10:05-11:55 and 14:35-16:25
	Wednesday:	14:35-16:25
	Thursday:	10:05-11:55 and 13:35-15:25
	Friday (fall only):	13:35-15:25

*Note:* Regular weekly lab sessions begin the first full week of classes.

## Required Texts

 (A copy of each is also “on reserve” at the Killam library)

Molles MC, Cahill JF. 2013. Ecology: concepts and applications. 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Edition. Toronto:McGraw-Hill. 654p.

Knisely K. 2013. A student handbook for writing in biology. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Sunderland:Sinauer Associates. 318p.

## Response Cards

You are required to purchase a Turning Technologies Response Card for in-class participation. The response card will allow you to respond to questions we will pose during lectures and labs. Each response card has a unique serial number on the back called the device ID. Place a piece of clear tape over the bar code and ID to preserve it. In order to receive credit for your votes, you will need to register your response card within the **first week** of class following the instructions on the class website ([dalhousie.blackboard.com](http://dalhousie.blackboard.com)). The response cards will be used every day in class, and you are responsible for bringing it to class daily. There are no “extra” cards in case you forget or lose yours. If you lose your response card, you must purchase a new one, first register it online (you can have more than one registered in your name) THEN **email the Instructor** with your NEW device ID so she can make sure that your new ID is attached to your name.

In lecture, for credit questions will be clearly indicated on the powerpoint slide so you will ALWAYS know when you are being graded. Your grade will be based on the best 80% of the for credit questions (worth 5% of your final mark). For example: if we ask 75 questions, only the best 60 will count towards your grade. This “best of” grading system takes into consideration that you may miss some lectures because of illness, forgotten or lost cards or any other reason. Therefore, there are **NO make-up questions or exemptions** unless there are exceptional circumstances (see p. 3) and you miss more than 20% of the questions due to this circumstance. In addition, grades will ONLY be posted before the midterm exam so you can see your progress and again before the final exam. More details will be given in the first lecture. If you have any questions about the response cards, contact the Instructor via email or see her during her office hours (posted on the class website).

## Labs

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Attendance at all sessions is mandatory. All labs will have a pre-lab assignment to be submitted ONLINE before the lab. Pre-lab assignments have worksheets in the lab manual that you can use to work on your answers before you submit them to the Pre-Lab link for your lab period under the specific lab folder (e.g. Lab 1) on the class website. You will have 1 hour to complete the assignment, so make use of the worksheet BEFORE beginning the timed submission. The pre-lab link will be available for 5 days prior to the lab and submission will be allowed UP TO the beginning of **YOUR** lab time. **Late pre-labs will not be accepted.** Pre-lab assignments are each worth 1%. Only the best 8 out of 9 will be considered, for a total of 8% of your final mark. **There is a pre-lab assignment due before your FIRST lab.**

There are 2 types of assignments: 1) the semester long competition experiment that has specific due dates for the different components and is mainly completed outside of lab time (see Lab 1 for details), 2) the scientific paper on forest succession and other weekly lab assignments that will be completed and submitted in lab. All of the due dates are outlined in the Lecture and Lab Outline on p. 5 – 6 of the lab manual.

All assignments that are not handwritten are to be submitted to the specific SafeAssign link on the class website by the deadline. Students must ALSO submit a paper copy during the lab session for marking. This means that ALL assignments completed in-lab that are not handwritten need to be **PRINTED IN LAB**. Therefore, you will need money on your DalCard or you will need a memory stick and cash to get it printed at the Print Centre. If neither of these are viable options for you, speak with the Instructor directly. All assignments will be considered LATE if the **paper or SafeAssign** copy is submitted AFTER the deadline. **A 10% penalty per day (30% for weekends) is levied on late assignments.** Late assignments will **NOT** be accepted after graded papers have been handed back. Some exceptions may apply (p.3). If you do not submit your assignment to SafeAssign before the link is no longer available, you will need to email an electronic copy of the assignment to the Instructor so she can upload it for you. **Your assignment will not be marked until it is submitted to SafeAssign.** Students are NOT required to submit pre-lab assignments to SafeAssign.

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that assignments are delivered, intact, with your name and lab day and time (eg: TUE AM). **Students must keep backup copies of all submitted class work.**

## Evaluation

To get a passing final grade in BIOL 2060 you **MUST** get **50% or better** on your Final Lab Grade (19 out of a possible 38 points) **AND** your Midterm and Final Exam marks (28 out of a possible 57 points).

Assessment Component	%
Midterm Exam (in class) – see schedule for date.	17
Final Exam (scheduled by Registrar)	40
Response cards (in-lecture)	5
Labs (worth a total of 38%)	
Competition Experiment (J1 = 2%, J2 and 3 = 3% each, J4 = 4%, Presentation = 2%)	14
Assignments (4 @ 2% each)	8
Forest Ecology and Succession Formal Report	8
Pre-Labs (best 8 of 9 at 1% each)	8
Total	100

Conversion of numeric grades to letter grades:

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A+ - 90-100	B+ - 75-79.9	C+ - 62-64.9	D - 50-54.9
A - 85-89.9	B - 70-74.9	C - 58-61.9	F - <50
A- - 80-84.9	B- - 65-69.9	C- - 55-57.9	

### General Lecture and Lab Outline

**Travel is NOT an acceptable excuse to miss examinations. Be sure to use the current year's outline available in the lab manual when making travel arrangements.**

Week	Topic	Lab Topic
Week 1	Introduction	<b>Labs start Week 2</b>
Week 2	Individuals	Lab 1: Competition Experiment
Week 3	Population dynamics	Lab 2: Presenting and Analyzing Data
Week 4	Population growth	Lab 3: Population Growth
Week 5	Interactions – competition, predation, herbivory	Lab 4: Zero Growth Isoclines
Week 6	<b>MID-TERM EXAM</b>	Lab 5: Forest Ecology and Succession
Week 7	Fall Term: Introduction Winter Term: Reading Week	Fall Term: Lab 5 continued
Week 8	Biodiversity	Lab 5 continued
Week 9	Community Structure	Lab 5 continued
Week 10	Community Function	Lab 6: Species Area and Trophic Cascades
Week 11	Large scale Biodiversity	Lab 1: Final Data Collection
Week 12	Large scale Biodiversity	Lab 1: Conference Presentations