

BIOL 3840/5840 - ENTOMOLOGY FALL 2015

Lecture: BC 1025 (9-9:50 a.m. M, W, F)

Laboratory: BC 2071 - Section A (9:30-12:20 Th), Section B (1:30-50 Th)

Instructor: Dr. Mark Blackmore

Office: BC 2218, Tel. 259-5114; email = mblackmo@valdosta.edu

Research Lab: BC 2060, Tel. 245-6422

Course scope and objectives: This course is intended to introduce the student to the study of insects, their

relationships among the major taxa of life, and provide illustrative examples") and 5. (Interpret ecological data pertaining to the behavior of the individual organism in its natural environment; to the structure and environment.")

Course Description: BIOL 3840/5840: Introduction to the study of insect biology, including ecology, behavior and taxonomy. Laboratory includes field observation, sampling and identification of local fauna only).

Text: *Fundamentals of Entomology*, 6th ed. by D. J. Elinger, recommended references: *An Introduction to*

Arthropods by George C. McGavin.

Course requirements & grading policy: Students are expected to attend all scheduled lectures and laboratory sessions, take examinations and turn in an insect collection. One or two Saturday or overnight field trips are planned but scheduling depends on availability of the field stations. **Daily attendance will**

The instructor is not obligated to provide lecture notes or handouts to absent students and reserves the right to not be tested in the lab on subjects covered only in lecture. **All tests are cumulative.** Grading of the collection will include consideration of mounting technique, appropriateness of mounts, condition and appearance of specimens, proper labeling and identification, as well as content (see handout). Specifically,

these tests may not be available. Lecture topics will be covered in 3 one-hour examinations and a comprehensive final examination. These exams may consist of any combination of objective (fill in the blank, multiple choice) and subjective (essay, diagrams etc.) questions about material presented in class or in the text. **Exams will be retained by the instructor for 1 calendar year; students may arrange to see these**

Qual presentations and curatorial duties to improve the teaching collection also may be assigned.

The following scale will be used to assign final grades:

POINTS EARNED	GRADE
900-1000	A
800-899	B
700-799	C
600-699	D
< 600	F

numbers are 245-2498 (V/VP) and 219-1348 (TTY).

Tentative Lecture Schedule – Fall 2015

Lecture Topics	Assigned Reading in Elzinga
Introduction: Why study insects?	Preface & handouts
Overview of Arthropods	Ch. 1
Insect Body Plan: External Characteristics	Ch. 2
Insect Body Plan: Internal Characteristics	Ch. 3
Development & Specialization	Ch. 4
Insect Ecology	Ch. 5
Behavior & Sociality	Ch. 6 & 7
Reproduction & Biodiversity	Ch. 8 & 9
Interactions with the Human World	Ch. 10
Pest Management & Household Insects	Ch. 11 & 12

Tentative lecture exam dates: Sept. 14, Oct. 19, Nov. 23, Final Exam 11/18/15, Friday Dec. 11

Tentative Lab Schedule (subject to weather conditions)

Week Beginning	Topic/Activity	Assigned Reading
August 17	Distribute equipment, Local Collecting	Ch. 13 & 14
August 24	Class of Coleoptera, Diptera, Arthropod External Features	pp. 269-270
Sept. 7	Aquatic collecting trip	pp. 383-389
Sept. 14	Quiz 2; Orthopteroid orders	pp. 389-399
Sept. 21	Isopoda, Dermaptera, Plecontera	pp. 576-661
Oct. 12	Trichoptera, Lepidoptera	pp. 439-449
Oct. 19	Quiz 4; Hymenoptera, Mecoptera	pp. 450-465
Oct. 26	Trichoptera; Lepidoptera	pp. 439-449
Nov. 2	Quiz 5; Hymenoptera: lower Diptera	pp. 450-465
Nov. 9	Diptera cont.	
Nov. 16	Quiz 6; TBA Collections due	
Nov. 23	Thanksgiving Break – Labs do not meet	
Nov. 30	Lab practicum II	
Dec. 7	Last Class Day – Labs do not meet	