

**BIOL 4700 Limnology
SECTION A
Fall SEMESTER 2011
DEPT. OF BIOLOGY;
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES;
VALDOSTA STATE UNIV.
CREDIT HOURS: 4**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Matthew Waters

OFFICE: BSC 1106

OFFICE HOURS – Tuesday: 9-11, 3:30-4:30 and Thursday:10-11, 12:30-1:30

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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, 4th edition by Gerald A. Cole

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	Text Chapters
Introduction and History of Limnology	1 and 2
Origin and Shape of Lakes	6 and 7
Light and Thermal Layering	9 and 10
Community Ecology and Energy	4 and 5
Carbon Cycling and Nutrients	13 and 15
Streams	8
Human Impacts	16
Paleolimnology	2
Shallow Lake Limnology	

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

We will cover many of these chapters, not necessarily all; actual coverage depends on the class.

LECTURE EXAMS:

Lecture exams will be essay, short answer, and vocabulary definitions. 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:

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 75 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. 2 reflection papers will be assigned on current literature read for class discussion. Each paper is worth 25 points each.

C. Students will be assessed on reading the required papers and textbook readings prior and various other small assignments. These will be worth 25 points total

Lecture: 3 Tests (75 points)	225
Journal reflection papers	50
Other	25
Lecture Total	300

Laboratory: Total lab points are converted to the equivalent 100 points. Thus, **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: Friday, October 7: 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):
360 and above (90-100%) =A
320-359 (80-89%) =B
280-319 (70-79%) =C
240-279 (60-69%) =D
239 and below (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.