

Biology 230 (section 201), *Fundamentals of Ecology* – January-April 2013

Lecturer: Prof. Diane Srivastava,
Biodiversity Research Centre, rm 107
svrast@zoology.ubc.ca. (Note: if your question requires more than an one word answer,
please see me in person rather than email)

Office Hours: Thursday 1:30-2:30, Friday 12:00-1:00, and after lectures

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CWSEI Science Teaching

& Learning Fellow: Malin Hansen, BiolSci 3306, 604.822.2582, hansen@zoology.ubc.ca

Textbook: Cain, M.L., W.D. Bowman, & S.D. Hacker. 2011. *Ecology*. 2nd Edition Sinauer:Sunderland, MA.

This is a required textbook; pre-reading assignments to be posted periodically on the Biology 230 Connect site will count for marks during the term (see mark breakdown below).

iClicker: required for this course; in-class participation measured by the iClicker system will count for marks during the term (see mark breakdown below). Full information on acquiring, registering, and using/maintaining your iClicker is posted in the iClicker folder on the Biology 230 Connect main page.

Surveys: you will be asked to participate in online surveys about ecology, teaching, and learning. The data collected in such surveys is extremely valuable for us in this course particularly, and for the development of the Biology Programme generally; survey completion counts for marks during the term (see mark breakdown below).

Learning activities: on several occasions during the term, a short assignment will be set requiring reading and/or problem-solving based on outside materials (e.g. journal articles), evaluated either online or in class. Instructions will be posted, and deadlines set. These activities count for marks during the term (see mark breakdown below).

Examinations: *two midterm exams (Friday 1st February and Friday 1st March)*, of duration 50 minutes, and together worth 25% of the course total grade (each worth 12.5%). Sample questions will be posted, and I plan extended office-hour/review availabilities in the days before the exam; I will post a detailed answer-scheme later for the midterm itself (not for the sample questions). **No “makeup” midterm**, with a valid excuse for absence the exam mark will be scaled to cover the missed midterm.

The *final examination* will be cumulative, of duration 150 minutes, and worth 45% of the course total grade. **NOTE** that the exam period ends on Thu 28 April – **do not schedule any travel or other commitments until after the completion of the exam period**, since you cannot know when your final exam will occur.

Field Labs: worth 20% of the course total grade. There will be three field-lab cycles in the term plus an introductory Excel assignment. All supporting materials for Field Labs are provided in the Field Labs folder, on the Biology 230 Connect main page: a General Lab Manual document with instructions about deadlines and handing in, what to do about missed assignments, our academic misconduct policy, *etc.*; a “TA-Link” document outlining all contact/office-hour information for TAs, and which lab sections each TA leads; and a folder for each Lab, in which the assignment and its background items will appear.

Mark breakdown for the course: (percent)

Midterms: 25	Surveys: 2	
Final Exam: 45	Pre-readings/Learning activities: 5	
Field Labs: 21	iClicker participation: 2	COURSE TOTAL : 100