

EVOLUTION (Biology 3101/5101)
Fall Semester, 2016
14:00–15:20 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 164 Beury Bldg.

Prof. Blair Hedges; office hours by appointment in 502 SERC: sbh@temple.edu. (tel. 215-204-4244)

Course materials: There is no textbook. All course information will be delivered in lectures. Attendance is critical. Lecture outlines will be available on BLACKBOARD, usually immediately prior to each lecture, although sometimes after a lecture (outlines are not to be distributed or posted on other servers) to provide students with access to illustrations shown during lectures. The outlines contain only bullets of text and should not to be considered “notes.” Students are responsible for taking notes during lecture and for all details discussed, including material (e.g., spoken during lecture) that is not in the lecture outlines. If a lecture is missed, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain notes from a classmate.

Grading: There will be four exams during the semester, and a final exam. Each exam will have 50 multiple-choice questions (5 choices each) and each question will be worth 5 points each. The final exam is comprehensive and required of everyone. Because missing an exam sometimes happens to the best of us, for whatever reason (oversleeping, cold or flu, professional interview, athletic event, family emergency, etc.), everyone's lowest exam score will be dropped. That way, you can miss one exam (score = zero) and it won't count towards your final grade. The lowest exam score is dropped automatically no matter what the reason for missing the exam, or doing poorly on an exam (if you took all four semester exams). Under this policy, there are no makeup exams. Therefore, your final course grade will be based on the remaining three semester exams and your final exam, for a maximum total of 1000 points. If you believe that a clear and unambiguous error was made in grading a question, submit a short explanation (limited to two questions per exam) via email to Prof. Hedges within one week after the exam in question. Final grades for the course will be determined based on the following distribution: A (93–100%), A- (90–92%), B+ (87–89%), B (83–86%), B- (80–82%), C+ (77–79%), C (70–76%), D (60–69%), and F (Less than 60%).

Classroom etiquette: Cell phones and other communication devices (either voice or for text) are not to be used while in the lecture room and must be turned off and packed away. Laptops are only to be used for taking notes--not for watching movies, emails, or other activities that might distract or disturb fellow students from learning.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR COURSE SCHEDULE

Course Schedule Fall 2016 (exam dates fixed; topics subject to change)

| | Date | Topic |
|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| lecture | Aug 30 T | Historical perspective |
| lecture | Sept 1 Th | The Universe and Earth |
| lecture | Sept 6 T | The Universe and Earth |
| lecture | Sept 8 Th | The origin of life |
| lecture | Sept 13 T | The fossil record of life |
| lecture | Sept 15 Th | The fossil record of life |
| EXAM | Sept 20 T | Exam 1 |
| lecture | Sept 22 Th | Classification |
| lecture | Sept 27 T | Macroevolution |
| lecture | Sept 29 Th | The molecular record of life |
| lecture | Oct 4 T | The molecular record of life |
| lecture | Oct 6 Th | Genes and Populations |
| lecture | Oct 11 T | Molecular Evolution |
| EXAM | Oct 13 Th | Exam 2 |
| lecture | Oct 18 T | Adaptation |
| lecture | Oct 20 Th | Adaptation |
| lecture | Oct 25 T | Speciation |
| lecture | Oct 27 Th | Speciation |
| lecture | Nov 1 T | Coevolution |
| lecture | Nov 3 Th | Biogeography |
| EXAM | Nov 8 T | Exam 3 |
| lecture | Nov 10 Th | Human evolution |
| lecture | Nov 15 T | Human evolution |
| lecture | Nov 17 Th | Evolution and conservation |
| NO CLASS | Nov 22 T | <u>No class (Thanksgiving week)</u> |
| NO CLASS | Nov 24 Th | <u>No class (Thanksgiving week)</u> |
| lecture | Nov 29 T | Evolution and conservation |
| lecture | Dec 1 Th | Evolution in the Universe |
| EXAM | Dec 6 T | Exam 4 |
| lecture | Dec 8 Th | Evolution in the Universe |
| Study Days | Dec 13-14 | Study days |
| Final | Dec 20, 1-3pm | FINAL EXAM |