

Biol 470: Conservation Biology
Spring 2004

Dr. Nakamura
Bio. Sci. 214
323 343-2060

Lecture: Monday & Wednesday 1:00-2:15 pm, PS 105
Lab: Monday 2:25-5:00 pm, BS 204
Email: rnakamu@calstatela.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 3:30-5:00 pm or by appointment
Textbook: *Essentials of Conservation Biology*, 3rd Edition by Richard Primack

The primary objectives of Biol 470 are for you to understand the fundamental concepts of conservation biology, the present and future status of biological diversity and the possible solutions for present-day threats. We will examine biodiversity, the ecology and genetics of small populations, the conservation of threatened species and natural communities, and the management of nature reserves. The prerequisite is completion of Biol 360, General Ecology.

Date	Topic	Assigned Reading
March 29	Introduction to Conservation Biology Lab on conservation issues	3-24
March 31	Cesar Chavez Holiday	
April 5	Biodiversity: genes, populations & species Lab on biodiversity	27-42, 71-82, 189-191
April 7	Biodiversity: communities	42-58, 61-70, 71-74, 191-193
April 12	Value of Biodiversity Field Trip to Natural History Museum	87-109, 111-134, 137-153
April 14	Losses of Biodiversity	160-185, 193-210
April 19	Genetics of Small Populations Lab on population genetics	297-320
April 21	Ecology of Small Populations 1 st Essay due	321-326, 329-354
April 26	Protection of Species Lab for 1 st round of oral reports	377-410
April 28	MIDTERM	
May 3	Captive Breeding and New Populations Lab for 2 nd round of oral reports	357-374
May 5	Conservation Biology and the Law	549-565, 587-601
May 10	Conservation of Communities Lab trip to Debs Park	213-220, 229-260, 265-292

May 12	Reserve Design	415-443, 447-469
May 17	Reserve Management Lab on Debs Park analysis	473-496, 499-516
May 19	Wetlands	
May 24	Field Trip to Lower Arroyo Seco	
May 26	Restoration Ecology 2 nd Essay due	525-543
May 31	Memorial Day Holiday	
June 2	Sustainable Development	516-522, 565-584, 601-619
June 9	FINAL EXAM 10:45 am	

You will write two short essays and give one oral report on a published research paper. During some lecture and lab periods, you will turn in for a grade student responses to the material. The midterm and final exams will consist of brief objective questions, numerical problems and short essay questions. The material on the exams will include the lecture, labs, field trips and assigned readings. I will deduct 15% of the grade from late essays and will accept no late essay more than two school days late. All assignments must be turned in during class or to my office, BS 214.

Grading:	Oral Report	20
	Essays (25 points each)	50
	Student Responses	30
	Midterm Exam	70
	Final Exam	80
	TOTAL	250

I will use plus/minus grading. The course grade distribution is based on the class average; anyone above the class average gets at least a B. Students with less than 125 points receive an F, and students with 229 points or more automatically get an A.

Evacuation Procedure: Students should follow the instructor out of the classroom and gather in Parking Lot D between the Biological Sciences Building and the Administration Building.

Academic Honesty: Students are expected to abide by the University's Academic Honesty Policy, which can be found on pages 121-123 of the Spring 2004 Schedule of Classes. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action and may receive a failing grade in the course for a single violation.