Course Syllabus

1. Who is my TA? When do I meet with them?

TA: Miranda Fields (she/her)
Weekly Lab Meetings: Thursdays 9:00 AM
Office Hours in-person, via Zoom, or by appointment: Thursdays 7-9 AM in FRIP
Email: MirandaFields@my.unt.edu

*NOTE – please, only use email to contact your TA. If you use CANVAS, your message may be missed, causing communication problems.

2. What is the book I need for this lab, and where do I purchase it?


It is mandatory for each student to purchase the latest version (Baxter-Slye 2022) of this manual. Old or used lab manuals are not accepted. Manuals may be purchased at the UNT Bookstore on campus (hard copy).

*NOTE: There is no e-book version of this book and we are not currently using the e-book version. Hard copies are needed to be used in the lab in person.

Any student that turns in the previous semester’s answers or turns in identical answers from another student will receive a zero for that week and may be reported to the Dean. Any student that is allowing a student to copy answers will also receive a zero for the week, and may also be reported to the Dean.

3. What other supplies do I need?

One pair of science lab safety goggles.

Anytime you are handling a chemical in this lab, you must have safety goggles on. We strongly recommend buying your own at the UNT Bookstore for $4.98. Otherwise, we have some that may be cleaned prior to use.

4. What are the goals and learning outcomes of this lab?

This is the associated laboratory of your BIOL 1132 Environmental Science lecture. The laboratory is designed to offer experiences to enhance your understanding of the
concepts covered in your lecture class. When practical, the laboratory exercises will correspond with the current topic being covered in your lecture, although this may not always be feasible.

By the end of the semester students should:

- Understand basic principles of ecology and environmental science.
- Understand how scientists study environmental science problems and test hypotheses using the scientific method using a hands-on approach.
- Gain the ability to logically and intellectually contribute to current issues related to the environment as an informed citizen for future voting, conversations, and general lifestyle practices in regard to the world around you.

5. How is my grade determined?

Please refer to this grading scheme when calculating your grade. Sometimes, the grade that automatically populates in CANVAS is not accurate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus agreement</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction discussion</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly quiz</td>
<td>8 x 10 = 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly participation</td>
<td>9 x 30 = 270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>2 x 100 = 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Project Outline and Responsibility Form</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group presentation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer-reviewed Participation for Group Project</td>
<td>20; with the possibility of lower points awarded for this item, plus the presentation.</td>
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</table>
Total possible points: 740; with the lowest quiz and assignment dropped resulting in a total of 700 points.

How to calculate the lab portion of your BIOL 1132 grade that will be reported to your lecture professor:

\[
\frac{\text{Total lab points with lowest quiz and lab removed}}{700} \times 100 = x \%
\]

rounded to the nearest whole number.

(e.g., 80.4 = 80; 80.5 = 81; 80.44 - 80; 80.45 = 81).

*IMPORTANT: The lab is worth 30% of your final overall grade for the BIOL 1132 course.

Students must pass both the lecture and the lab independently to pass the course.

(i.e., if you fail the lab, but are passing the lecture, you automatically fail the entire course or vice versa).

For the lab, > 60% is passing.

(i.e., a ≤ 59.4% is rounded to ≤ 59 and is not passing)

Release of Grades:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (1974), does not permit faculty or staff to report grades by phone or email. In addition, per University policy, grades cannot be posted. Do not request any information from your TA about grades unless it is in person. This being said, due to our current health situation, you may discuss grades via Zoom meetings with your TA.

6. Exams:

You will have two exams during the semester - a midterm and a final (cumulative). The material covered will be taken from the lab manual, videos, weekly assignments, and quizzes. Once you begin the exam, you will have the entire lab time to complete the exam.

Exam time may be extended with proper ODA notifications. Exams can only be made up if you have a school-approved reason for missing an exam (e.g. sick, religious holiday, or family emergency/death). You will be required to provide written notification. Exams should be made up during the same week and prompt communication with your TA is required. If you fail to communicate with your TA in a prompt manner, you will not be
allowed to make up the exam. Cheating on any exam will result in a zero for the lab, and you will fail the entire BIOL1132 course.

7. Weekly quizzes and assignments:

****IMPORTANT! THE LABS DO NOT ALWAYS CORRESPOND TO THE ORDER IN THE MANUAL.

A CANVAS module has been created for each week, covering 8 lab concepts. In each module, you will find instructions and resources.

There will be a quiz that covers the preparatory background reading for that week's lab. Quizzes are online and are due at midnight prior to the day of your lab section.

There are 8 short quizzes worth 10 points each (the lowest will be dropped for a total of 70 points). You will have 1 attempt of 5 minutes to take each quiz. You should read/view any material for the quiz ahead of time.

Each of the 9 labs is worth 30 points each (the lowest will be dropped for a total of 240 points). Your TA will use your lab manual and active participation to award points for each lab. During each lab, students should actively participate by filling out their lab manual and providing assistance during experiments. If students are not actively participating, a reduction in points will occur.

No late assignments will be accepted. In the current situation, we will provide ample time and assign a conservative due date. If you have an extenuating circumstance and need additional time, you must email your TA with written notification.

8. Policy on incompletes:

Only your lecture professor can give you an “I”, however, you can discuss this option with the Laboratory Supervisor, Jaime Baxter-Slye at slye@unt.edu. An incomplete (I) is a non-punitive grade, given only during the last one-fourth of a semester and only if a student is (1) passing the course; (2) has a justifiable reason why the class cannot be completed on schedule; and (3) arranges with the instructor to finish the course at a later date by completing specific requirements that the instructor must list on the grade sheet turned in at the end of the semester. All work must be completed within the time specified by the instructor (not to exceed one year after taking the course).

9. Policy on Disability Accommodations:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the
ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office (Links to an external site.)disability-access (Links to an external site.). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

10. Policy on scholastic dishonesty: BIOL 1132 labs have a zero-tolerance policy for scholastic dishonesty including:

- Copying students' data and answers.
- Turning in used lab manual worksheets.
- Taking quizzes together.
- Taking exams together.
- Providing answers to another student.
- Plagiarizing on group projects.

The term ‘plagiarism’ includes, but is not limited to:

- The knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment;
- The knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Examples: copying word for word or even a phrase from a publication, including web pages, without placing quotes around the phrase and citing the source.
- If we suspect you of cheating, an email will be sent to you. A zero for the assignment will be given and may remain in place. And, you may be reported to the Dean of Students and fail the entire BIOL1132 course, including the lecture.

Course Summary:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed Jan 24, 2024</td>
<td>Quiz Quiz 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Jan 29, 2024</td>
<td>Quiz Quiz Syllabus Agreement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed Jan 31, 2024</td>
<td>Discussion Topic Meet Your Instructor &amp; Introduce Yourself Discussion</td>
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<td>Assignment Environmental Ethics Upload</td>
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<td>Thu Feb 8, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment Trophic Transfers of Energy I Photosynthesis</td>
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<td>Mon Feb 12, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment SUBMIT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 15, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment Trophic Transfers of Energy II Consumers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 22, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment Water Pollution and Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thu Feb 29, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment Aquatic Ecological Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon Apr 15, 2024</td>
<td>Assignment SUBMIT</td>
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<td>Assignment Extra Credit</td>
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<td>Assignment Global Climate Change</td>
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<td>Assignment Land Use and Soil Conservation</td>
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<td>Assignment SUBMIT</td>
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<td>Assignment Wetland Field Trip</td>
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