



**LEARNING OBJECTIVES / GOALS / OUTCOMES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course students will:

- understand the mechanisms that regulate the distribution of organisms and be able to identify and compare biogeographical regions and discuss how these regions might change over time;
- know about geologic time, evolution, ecology, and systematics; and
- be able to synthesize information from different disciplines and improve their critical thinking, computation, and writing skills.

**METHODS:**

Course format will include lectures, laboratory sessions, and field trips. Laboratory exercises and assignments are designed to supplement theory presented during lectures.

**PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):**

Credit can be awarded for this course through PLAR (Please check:)     Yes                       No

**METHODS OF OBTAINING PLAR:**

Examinations and/or portfolio assessment.

**TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:**

[Textbook selection varies by instructor. An example of texts for this course might be:]

Cox, C.B., and Moore, P.D., 2005, Biogeography: An Ecological and Evolutionary Approach, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, Blackwell Publishing.

Scholarly articles will also be placed on reserve in the library.

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

Laboratory notebook.  
Field-trip fee.

**STUDENT EVALUATION:**

[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]

Lab assignments	30%
Midterm exam	25%
Research paper	20%
Final exam	25%

**COURSE CONTENT:**

[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]

Lecture and Lab Topics

- 1 Introduction / History of discipline
- 2 Patterns of biodiversity
- 3 Patterns of distribution
- 4 Communities and ecosystems
- 5 Natural selection and speciation
- 6 Island biogeography
- 7 Biological diversification over geologic time
- 8 Ice and change
- 9 Influence of humans, a planet transformed
- 10 Biogeography of the seas
- 11 Interpreting the past: molecules and isotopes
- 12 Interpreting the past: principles and practice
- 13 Biogeographical forecasting