

# Assessment: Course Four Column



## Courses (SCI) - Biology

### BIOL 341:Principles of Ecology

Course Outcomes	Assessment Measures	Results	Actions
<p><b>Ecological principles and terminology</b> - Students will have an understanding of fundamental Ecological principles and terminology.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Exam</b> - All exam questions</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 6%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>Exam 1: 78%</p> <p>Exam 2: 79%</p> <p>Exam 3: 77% (02/12/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> No action is required, but I plan to include more short answer/short essay questions for future exams. This will help me to better assess students' proper use of terminology and application of ecological principles. (02/12/2018)</p>
<p><b>Ecological topics and issues at the organismal, population, community, and ecosystem level</b> - Students will be able to understand and describe current Ecological topics and issues at the organismal, population, community, and ecosystem level.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Exam</b> - Exam 3: Part 1 #24; Part 2 #8; Part 3 #6</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> No</p> <p>Question 24: 33%</p> <p>Question 8: 67%</p> <p>Question 6: 87% (02/13/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Students did really well on graph interpretation (question 6). Question 24 dealt with use of ice core data to extrapolate current trends in carbon dioxide levels. I will improve instruction on this and spend more time explaining how this technique is used. (02/13/2018)</p>
<p><b>Qualitative and quantitative methodologies used to answer Ecological questions</b> - Students will have an understanding of the qualitative and quantitative methodologies used to answer Ecological questions.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p>	<p><b>Exam</b> - Exam 3: Part 3, Graph Interpretation</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>Graph 1: 69%</p> <p>Graph 2: 90%</p> <p>Graph 3: 72%</p> <p>Graph 4: 87% (02/13/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> No action required. Students performed really well at this. (02/13/2018)</p>

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<b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017			
<p><b>Apply knowledge of Ecological principles and methods</b> - Students will be able to apply knowledge of Ecological principles and methods.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Exam</b> - All exam questions</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>Exam 1: 78%</p> <p>Exam 2: 79%</p> <p>Exam 3: 77% (02/13/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> No action required, but in the future I might assess this based on their research paper. This would be a better way to assess application of ecological methods through interpreting primary literature. (02/13/2018)</p>
<p><b>Importance of primary literature to Ecological research</b> - Students will have an understanding of the importance of primary literature to Ecological research.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Assignment - Project</b> - Research Paper Bibliography</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>100% of students incorporated sources from the primary literature. (02/13/2018)</p>	
<p><b>Communicate scientific ideas clearly in written form on a chosen Ecological topic</b> - Students will communicate scientific ideas clearly in written form on a chosen Ecological topic.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Assignment - Project</b> - Research Paper Final Score</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>Average score: 93% (02/13/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> No action required. I had students submit a rough draft and this allowed for the final version to be much improved. (02/13/2018)</p>
<p><b>Communicate scientific ideas clearly in oral form on a chosen Ecological topic</b> - Students will communicate scientific ideas clearly in oral form on a chosen Ecological topic.</p> <p><b>Course Outcome Status:</b> Active</p> <p><b>Next Assessment:</b> 2021-2022</p> <p><b>Start Date:</b> 09/05/2017</p>	<p><b>Performance/Presentation</b> - Research Presentation</p> <p><b>Criterion:</b> 60%</p>	<p><b>Reporting Period:</b> 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Criterion Met:</b> Yes</p> <p>Average score: 92% (02/13/2018)</p>	<p><b>Action:</b> Strengths: Students performed really well on graph interpretation. This is encouraging because it is an important part of Ecology and science in general. I will continue to emphasize this in lecture. It was also encouraging to see students perform well on their final papers and presentations. I will continue to include this in the course because I think it is an excellent way for them to pursue their own interests and apply</p>

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ecological methods and principles.

Targeted Changes: A main area that needs improvement for this course is the outcomes. I plan to make these align better with assessment. As currently stated, they are difficult to align with assessment. This is particularly the case with Outcome 1 and Outcome 4. Overall, I will improve the wording of the outcomes to make them more assessable. Another area not mentioned above that I plan to improve upon is the content of my lectures. I plan to include more examples, especially local and regional ecological examples. This will help to keep students engaged and help them to see the relevance of the course. (02/13/2018)