Fall 2006 Syllabus
General Ecology 4240/5240

Instructor: R. Stephen Howard, Ph.D.
Office: Jones 232
Office hours: MWF. 8:30-10:00 a.m. and by appointment.
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Grading policy: There will be 3 regular semester exams worth 100 points each and two laboratory exams worth 100 points. Any material covered in lecture, laboratory, or in the assigned readings is fair game for exams. In addition, all students will conduct an independent research project on some current topic in ecology. This assignment will be worth 100 points and is mandatory. I will provide more details as the semester progresses.

Note: Missing an exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam. No makeup exams will be given. At my discretion, students who miss a single exam may be allowed to replace the missed exam score with that earned on a comprehensive final exam.

General policies: I expect you to attend class as scheduled, and to show up on time. This is an upper division course, and I will teach it at that level. Note: Ecology is one of the most quantitative sub-disciplines of modern biology, so be prepared for lots of math and statistics. If your math skills are a bit rusty, I suggest you dust off the covers of your old calculus and algebra books and review a bit before things get too hectic.

I will work very hard to be organized so that you can plan your studies accordingly. The grading scale is as follows:


Note: Grades are based strictly on merit as measured by exam scores and your performance on the research project. There will be no curve or other adjustments of grades.