CASPER COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS

Date: Spring, 2016

Course Number & Title: BIOL 2400, Ecology

Credit Information
Lecture Hours: 3
Laboratory Hours: 0
Credits: 3

Instructor Information
Instructor's Name: Dr. Evert Brown
Office: EI 111
Phone: 268-2407
e-mail: ebrown@caspercollege.edu
Office Hours: Thurs – 1:00-2:00 PM, 6:00-7:00 PM, and by appointment.
Fri – 3:00-4:00 by appointment, See Office Hours Schedule on door.

Class Information
Time: 7:00-9:50 PM
Days: Thursday
Room: EI 103

Course Description:
An introduction to the principles of ecology. Topics stressed include the ecosystem, community, populations, succession, aquatic and terrestrial habitats, natural selection, and speciation.

Prerequisites:
BIOL 1010 or equivalent.

General Objective
To provide students with exposure to ecological concepts of how organisms interact with their environment.

Specific Objectives (Outcomes):
Students should be able to describe:
◆ how the scientific method applies to ecology
◆ how organisms interact with their environment.
◆ how populations function and interact
◆ how communities function and interact
◆ how ecosystems function and interact.
◆ the abiotic influences impacting organisms
◆ how the abiotic interactions impact the biotic

Methodology:
Class discussions, hand-outs, readings, lectures, discussions, student presentations, observations, slides, models, computer simulations, videos, etc...

Evaluation Criteria:
You will be evaluated by exams and in-class/homework assignments and quizzes. Each week, a quiz will be administered. In-class/homework assignments may be periodic with varying points assigned. There is no make-up for missing in-class assignments or quizzes without prior communication with your instructor. In the end, the points that you earn will determine your grade. Simple percentage of points accumulated will determine final letter grade: 90% is an A; 80% is a B; 70%
is a C; 60% is a D; and <60% is failing. I reserve the right to consider attendance as a mitigating factor in final grade determination. There is no extra credit.

**Required Texts, Readings, Materials:**


**Recommended:** Access to internet resources. Available in computer labs across campus if you do not have home internet access.

**Last Date To Change To Withdraw Or Change To Audit Status:** 14 April 2016

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:** Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.

**Cell phone Policy** – If any cell phone goes off during class, I will stop class and we will have an immediate pop quiz on an Ecology related topic. This quiz may cover any past, present, or future material. There is no make up for this quiz. During class, the use of cell phones is strictly prohibited. If there are specific reasons for you to take calls during class, you must alert your instructor prior to class. Use of cell phones during class may result in you receiving no credit for an exam, quiz, or exercise.

**Chain of Command:** If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor to attempt to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take the matter through the appropriate chain of command starting with the Department Head/Program Director, the Dean, and lastly the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty:** (Cheating & Plagiarism) Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct for more information on this topic.

**Official Means of Communication:** Casper College faculty and staff will employ the student's assigned Casper College email account as a primary method of communication. Students are responsible to check their account regularly.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:** If you need academic accommodations because of a disability, please inform me as soon as possible. See me privately after class, or during my office hours. To request academic accommodations, students must first consult with the college’s Disability Services Counselor located in the Gateway Building, Room 344, (307) 268-2557, bheuer@caspercollege.edu. The Disability Services Counselor is responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students requesting accommodations, determining eligibility for accommodations, and helping students request and use appropriate accommodations.