

## PLB 440 Grasslands Ecology: Fall 2015

	Tuesday Lectures	Topic	Thurs Labs	Topic
1	Aug 25	Organization	Aug 27	Introduction (Ch 1). Lab: Rothrock Prairie
2	Sept 1	Systematics (Ch 2)	Sept 3	Ch 1-2 of Manning. Lab: Faulkner-Franke Prairie
3	Sept 8	Morphology (Ch 3)	Sept 9	Lab: Wildcat Bluff
4	Sept 15	Evolution (Ch 2)	Sept 17	Ch 3 of Manning. Lab: Brown Barrens
5	Sept 22	Physiology (Ch 4)	Sept 24	Lab: Cave Creek Prairie
6	Sept 29	Ch 4-5 of Manning.	Oct 1	Lab: Simpson's Barren
7	Oct 6	<b>Mid-term</b>	Oct 8	Lab: Crab Orchard Restorations
8	Oct 13	<b>FALL BREAK</b>	Oct 15	Lab: Fults Hill Prairie
9	Oct 20	Pop ecol: fungi (Ch 5)	Oct 22	Lab: SICE restoration plots.
10	Oct 27	Pop ecol: genes (Ch 5)	Oct 29	Classification lab
11	Nov 3	Community ecol. (Ch 6)	Nov 5	Ch 6-8 of Manning.
12	Nov 10	Ecosystem ecol. (Ch 7).	Nov 12	N.Amer. g'lands 1.Lab: Movie
13	Nov 17	N.Amer. g'lands 2	Nov 19	Ch 9 -11 of Manning. Movie
14	Nov 24	Illinois g'lands	Nov 26	<b>THANKSGIVING</b>
15	Dec 1	Park Grass Experiment	Dec 3	Disturbance (Ch 9): Symposium
16	Dec 8	Management (Ch 10):	Dec 10	Ch 12-13 Manning. Lab Reports Due. Evaluation
17	Dec 17		Thurs	<b>FINAL:</b> Take home, due 11:59 pm Dec 17

### Objectives:

1. Obtain knowledge of grasses and grasslands of the world.
2. Be familiar with the current literature on grassland ecology.

### Evaluation:

	%
1. Mid-term	35
2. Final (comprehensive)	20
3. Diversity project (formal write up plus symposium presentation).	40
4. Participation	5

### Textbooks:

Gibson, D.J. 2009. *Grasses & Grassland Ecology*. Oxford University Press. Required text for lectures.

Manning, R. 1995. *Grassland*. Penguin Books, London. This book is required as we will be holding class discussions about in on the dates shown in the schedule.

### Class Meetings:

Lectures: Tuesday & Thursday 1:00 - 1:50 LSII 449 (430 are renovations)

Labs: Thursday 2:00 - 4:50 LSII 423

Generally, we will use the Thursday lecture period for lab activities. You should be prepared to work outdoors in hot, humid conditions. Wear field clothes (no shorts or open sandals). Bring water, bug spray, sun screen, paper and pencil. A hand lens and plant ID books will be useful. Smoking is not allowed in SIUC vehicles or at any time on the field trips (grassland fire danger). You must travel in SIUC vehicles to the field sites, travel in personal vehicles is not allowed.

### **Field Labs:**

You will be conducting a semester long field experiment using field data that you will collect as we visit a number of local grasslands. You will work in a group to test an hypothesis that addresses the question: "What determines grassland diversity?" An oral, group report (PowerPoint) must be presented in class on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a formal write up posted on dropbox in D2L and due in class Dec 10<sup>th</sup>.

## IMPORTANT DATES \*

<u>Semester Class Begins</u> .....	<b>08/24/2015</b>
<u>Last day to add a class</u> (without instructor permission):.....	<b>08/30/2015</b>
<u>Last day to withdraw completely and receive a 100% refund</u> :.....	<b>09/06/2015</b>
<u>Last day to drop a course using SalukiNet</u> :.....	<b>11/01/2015</b>
<u>Last day to file diploma application</u> (for name to appear in Commencement program):.....	<b>09/18/2015</b>
<u>Final examinations</u> :.....	<b>12/14–12/18/2015</b>

Note: For outreach, internet, and short course drop/add dates, visit Registrar's Academic webpage <http://registrar.siu.edu/>

## SPRING SEMESTER HOLIDAYS

Labor Day Holiday 09/07/2015

Fall Break 10/10—10/13/2015

Veterans Day Holiday 11/11/2015

Thanksgiving Vacation 11/25—11/29/2015

## WITHDRAWAL POLICY ~ Undergraduate only

Students who officially register for a session may not withdraw merely by the stopping of attendance. An official withdrawal form needs to be initiated by the student and processed by the University. For the proper procedures to follow when dropping courses and when withdrawing from the University, please visit <http://registrar.siu.edu/pdf/ugradcatalog1314.pdf>

## INCOMPLETE POLICY~ Undergraduate only

An INC is assigned when, for reasons beyond their control, students engaged in passing work are unable to complete all class assignments. An INC must be changed to a completed grade within one semester following the term in which the course was taken, or *graduation*, whichever occurs first. Should the student fail to complete the course within the time period designated, that is, by no later than the end of the semester following the term in which the course was taken, or graduation, whichever occurs first, the incomplete will be converted to a grade of *F* and the grade will be computed in the student's grade point average. For more information please visit: <http://registrar.siu.edu/grades/incomplete.html>

## REPEAT POLICY

An undergraduate student may, for the purpose of raising a grade, enroll in a course for credit no more than two times (two total enrollments) unless otherwise noted in the course description. For students receiving a letter grade of A,B,C,D, or F, the course repetition must occur at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Only the most recent (last) grade will be calculated in the overall GPA and count toward hours earned. See full policy at

<http://registrar.siu.edu/pdf/ugradcatalog1314.pdf>

## GRADUATE POLICIES

Graduate policies often vary from Undergraduate policies. To view the applicable policies for graduate students, please visit

<http://gradschool.siu.edu/about-us/grad-catalog/index.html>

## DISABILITY POLICY

Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements.

<http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/>

## PLAGIARISM CODE

[http://pvcaa.siu.edu/\\_common/documents/Plagiarism/Guide%20to%20Preventing%20Plagiarism.pdf](http://pvcaa.siu.edu/_common/documents/Plagiarism/Guide%20to%20Preventing%20Plagiarism.pdf)

## MORRIS LIBRARY HOURS

<http://www.lib.siu.edu/about>

## SAFETY AWARENESS FACTS AND EDUCATION

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: <http://safe.siu.edu>

## SALUKI CARES

The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or [siucares@siu.edu](mailto:siucares@siu.edu),

<http://salukicare.siu.edu/index.html>

## EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. We ask that you become familiar with the SIU **Emergency Response Plan** and **Building Emergency Response Team (BERT)** programs. Please reference the **Building Emergency Response Protocols for Syllabus** attachments on the following pages. *It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.*

## INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

SIU contains people from all walks of life, from many different cultures and sub-cultures, and representing all strata of society, nationalities, ethnicities, lifestyles, and affiliations. Learning from and working with people who differ is an important part of education as well an essential preparation for any career. For more information please visit: <http://www.inclusiveexcellence.siu.edu/>

## LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Help is within reach. Learning support services offers free tutoring on campus and math labs. To find more information please visit the Center for Learning and Support Services website:

**Tutoring** : <http://tutoring.siu.edu/>

**Math Labs** [http://tutoring.siu.edu/math\\_tutoring/index.html](http://tutoring.siu.edu/math_tutoring/index.html)

## WRITING CENTER

The Writing Center offers free tutoring services to all SIU students and faculty. To find a Center or Schedule an appointment please visit <http://write.siu.edu/>

## AFFIRMATIVE ACTION & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Our office's main focus is to ensure that the university complies with federal and state equity policies and handles reporting and investigating of discrimination cases. For more information visit:

<http://diversity.siu.edu/#>

## Additional Resources Available:

**SALUKINET**: <https://salukinet.siu.edu/cp/home/displaylogin>

**ADVISEMENT**: <http://advisement.siu.edu/>

**SIU ONLINE**: <http://online.siu.edu/>