



Temperate Field Biology EEB405H0/1

Instructors

Instructor 1: Prof. Art Weis, arthur.weis@utoronto.ca

Instructor 2: TBA

Dates

May 22 – June 4, 2020

Location

Koffler Scientific Reserve at Joker's Hill, King City, ON (www.ksr.utoronto.ca)

Cost

\$800 (plus tuition fee* for 0.5 FCE) includes 13 nights' dormitory accommodation, meals, and transportation to/from the St. George campus.

***Note on tuition:** If you are a student who currently pays the full tuition program fee, you are not required to pay the summer incidental fees relating to the field course. You must meet the condition that the field course is required for the program you are currently registered in to waive tuition for this course.

Prerequisites

BIO120H1, BIO220H, EEB/CSB upper year course with lab, introductory stats course, and permission of instructor

Course Description

Koffler Scientific Reserve at Joker's Hill is a research station run by the University of Toronto on the Oak Ridges Moraine. The objective of this course is to give you a broad overview of the natural history of south-central Ontario and to introduce you to some of the most commonly used methods in the study of field ecology and evolution. In the first week, we will observe many types of organisms (e.g., plants, insects, birds, mammals) in a wide array of environments with a focus on the organisms studied by the course instructors. You will experience hands-on learning through guided natural history walks, group projects, and specimen collections, and discussion of papers from the ecology literature. The second week of the course is devoted to independent research projects.

Projects start with an observation/question. You formulate a hypothesis, design and conduct experiments to test the hypothesis, and present the results in written and oral form. Further details on the course and specifics of what to bring are provided in the spring to those who enroll.

Physical Demands/Risks

On natural history hikes, and during your own research, you will encounter mosquitoes, poison ivy, and rugged terrain. Dear ticks are known from the area, leading to a non-zero risk of Lyme's disease. Teaching and research will be conducted outdoors, and you should be prepared for cold weather and rain, as well as hot weather. During your own field research, you will independently move through the property.

Credit

0.5 FCE

Evaluation

Marks are based on class performance/participation, performance on guided projects, and on the results of the original project. Each student will give an oral presentation to the class and hand in a written report, which is due at the end of the class. Students are expected to hand in their field notes and data.

- Oral presentation of a pre-assigned scientific paper: 10%
- Field notebook: 5%
- Class performance/participation: 20%
- Oral presentation on individual project: 30%
- Written report on individual project: 35%

Registration, Enrolment, and Grades

Maximum of 16 students

Students accepted will be enrolled into this course through the EEB Undergraduate Office. You will be enrolled in EEB405H as a second semester summer session student; therefore, the office cannot add you to ROSI until the March 2020 add date for the summer session. Grades for this class will be available late August 2020.

The University's Grading Practices Policy states that some graded work be returned before the date to cancel a course without academic penalty. Please be aware that this is not practical for a two-week field course.

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