
COURSE PREFIX/NUMBER:	BIO 206
COURSE TITLE:	Ecology Laboratory
LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK:	0.0
LAB HOURS PER WEEK:	3.0
CREDIT HRS/SEMESTER:	1.0

[Distance Learning Attendance/VA Statement](#)
[Textbook Information](#)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This ecology laboratory experience consists of discussions, demonstrations, experiments, films, and field trips pertaining to the relationships of man to the biosphere, human ecology, resource use, and environmental impact.

COURSE COMPETENCIES/PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be competent to perform the following tasks:

Module 1: Scientific Techniques and Methodology

- Characterize the scientific method of investigation and reporting.
- Demonstrate correct experimental design, data collection and organization, and data analysis via mathematical methodology.
- Demonstrate proper specimen and sample collection and handling techniques
- Demonstrate effective communication skills through presentation preparation and public speaking

Module 2: Air, Soil, and Water Quality

- Perform analysis of a variety of water pollution parameters.
- Demonstrate proper water sample collection and handling techniques.
- Perform analysis of a variety of soil parameters.
- Demonstrate proper soil sample collection and handling techniques.
- Describe the significance of a variety of air pollution parameters.

Module 3: Natural History and Environmental Issues

- Demonstrate appropriate use of biological terminology and a general understanding of significant topics in ecology.
- Recognize the relationship that exists between ecology and the other sciences and its relevance to civilization.
- Demonstrate an understanding of ecosystem structure and the interaction of biotic and abiotic factors in community interactions and biogeochemical cycles, including the impact of activity by human beings.
- Demonstrate appropriate use of biological terminology.
- Demonstrate the effective use of dichotomous keys.

MINIMAL STANDARDS

Minimal standards of performance for receiving credit for the course are indicated by 60% accuracy on all evaluation instruments (see evaluation strategies listed below) which address the performance objectives listed above.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy

Students are responsible for attending meetings in the course until they have completed all course requirements. Students are responsible for all material covered and for all assignments made in all classes. Students who are absent from a course more than 10% of the total contact hours assigned may be withdrawn in accordance with the attendance policy of York Technical College. See attached Instructor's Individual Policy for more information.

Withdrawal from the course

A student may withdraw from a course after the drop/add period until midterm with a grade of "W." Withdrawals after midterm will result in either a grade of "W" or "WF" depending upon the student's academic performance and attendance in the course at the time of the withdrawal.

Student Conduct

Students are expected to conform to all standards of conduct as specified in the York Technical College Handbook and Catalog. Students found guilty of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism will be given a grade of zero and may be subject to further disciplinary action.

EVALUATION STRATEGIES/GRADING

Grades will be determined as described below:

Module 1: Scientific Techniques and Methodology

Submission of written lab reports, collections of specimens, student designed dichotomous keys, and calculations with interpretation based on collected data. Quiz on material covered.

Module 2: Air, Soil, and Water Quality

Submission of analyzed data in laboratory report format and demonstrated competency in sample collection, processing, and data recording. Quiz on material covered.

Module 3: Natural History and Environmental Issues

Submission of student generated presentation, submission of laboratory reports generated using data from research and observation by students. Quiz on material covered.

The grading scale is as follows:

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F Below 60

Module 1 46% of course grade

Module 2 27% of course grade

Module 3 27% of course grade

Total 100%

ENTRY LEVEL SKILLS: NONE

PREREQUISITES: NONE

CO-REQUISITES: NONE

Disabilities Statement: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Special Resources Offices (SR) at 803-327-8007 in the 300 area of Student Services. The SRO coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

EFFECTIVE: FA2006