

BIEB 121 Syllabus Spring 2021

Welcome to BIEB 121, online edition!

Instructor:

Shannon Butler, PhD., shannon.rhey.butler@gmail.com, she/her

Office hours: We can meeting during class time in a break out room as well, or by appointment

This class will meet **SYNCHRONOUSLY** from 10 am-12:50 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Schedule:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cszQx4rwMy3xglwrprYfE-YznYEHdEzgdQSVUTijFIQ/e-dit#gid=410122119>

Zoom Classroom:

Topic: BIEB 121 Lab Room

Meeting ID: 917 3120 1867

Password: birds

Instructional assistants:

Ashley Kim, she/her, ask002@ucsd.edu

Adrian Castillo, he/him, adc040@ucsd.edu

Office hours:

	Day	Time	Zoom ID	Password
Adrian	Tuesday	5-6pm	919 3762 2999	bieb121
Ashley	Thursday	5-6pm	974 1169 0588	bieb121

Course overview: This is a course in experimental methods in field ecology. The focus will be on natural history, experimental methods, statistical analysis, reading scientific literature, and scientific communication. Statistics is an essential prerequisite for this course. The emphasis will be on terrestrial ecology, particularly and animal ecology, but with forays into intertidal ecology and ecosystem ecology. Even though we are online, you will still go out in the field (outside) to collect data. We will also work in groups in Zoom to conduct analyses and work on writing/communication skills.

Class meetings: We will meet Synchronously** in ZOOM **10am-12:50pm Tu/Th, through 10th week**. We will not meet during finals week. *Part or all of our zoom sessions may be recorded and posted on Canvas (accessible to our class only).*

**** This course is designed to be primarily synchronous group work.** If you are in a time zone where this meeting time is very inconvenient, or have child care issues, we can discuss how to accommodate you working asynchronously or in a modified way. However, it is much easier for you to work in a group synchronously, and much easier for us to help you and give you feedback if you are able to participate synchronously. You will need special permission to work asynchronously. Please contact me ASAP by email to work something out.

Attendance: As we are all aware, we are in the middle of a worldwide Pandemic. We will be flexible with you with good reason, but you need to be honest with us. If you can't come to class, let me know so that we can accommodate you completing the assignments asynchronously. If you will be gone on a regular basis, group work may become individual work, depending how often you will be gone. Please talk with me on an individual basis. There will be things that are unforeseeable and out of your control, those are valid reasons to not come to class. But otherwise, you need to be here.

Communication: We will share all material via Canvas. I will send out announcements via Canvas "Announcements", monitor them daily, M-F. It is your responsibility to check announcements on Canvas for important information. To contact me, email me with the subject line "BIEB 121".

Dr. B Office hours: I am happy to meet with you in a break out room during, before, or after class. Please email me beforehand or private message me in Zoom let me know if you need to discuss anything separately in a break out room. Otherwise, there is plenty of time to get help with class material in our lab periods. If you need additional help, please let me know.

Nature of this course: This course is a field based course. Obviously, we are modifying it to be online, but also we want you to go out into the field on your own. This is NEW for all of us! We appreciate your patience as we adapt this course. Some activities will be different, you will use some of last year's data. I have some pictures of data you would have collected. We are going to do the best we can. I do have an assignment that you can work on throughout the quarter that involves going outside wherever you live, but I realize that may be difficult. But we will try!

Technology: You need to be able to access Canvas and the internet to complete this course. You will also need to use a statistical software (R, will get you access later!). If you don't have access to the internet or a computer/tablet, please contact vcsa@ucsd.edu. And fill out this form <https://eforms.ucsd.edu/view.php?id=490887>
There are apps for Zoom, Canvas, and Google Drive which will be useful if you want to multitask with your phone/tablet.

You will need to connect to the VPN to access primary literature:

<https://library.ucsd.edu/computing-and-technology/connect-from-off-campus/>

Please do this during week 1 in case you run into issues. Use the option for **VPN Anyconnect**.

Software: We will be using R, Microsoft Excel, and a Word processing software (such as Microsoft Word or the equivalent). If you use Mac "Number", that will work but my instructions will not be worded specifically for your program.

Download R here: <https://rstudio.com/products/rstudio/download/> it is free and there are instructions on Canvas Module D3.

How you are graded/evaluated: Each day, there will be some sort of deliverable, either by the end of class, or by the next class period. You will have a couple of individual projects as well, write ups are usually done in groups. We also have some pre-recorded lectures and quizzes (open notes) to make sure that you have watched and understood the lecture.

These points are tentative! Some things we may not be able to do. You may miss assignments and I will work with you individually to determine what can be made up vs what will just be marked "excused". If you do the work, you will get a grade you deserve.

Absences: We understand things happen. If you have a medical emergency, mental health emergency, unexpected caretaking, or a hard to schedule doctor or government appointment (jury duty, vaccine appointment, etc), please email **Dr. B** as soon as possible (subject line BIEB 121) to figure out a solution. Please do your best to attend class on time, and be honest with us about your absences. I may ask for documentation of your emergency, when reasonable.

Schedule: You can see the schedule here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1cszQx4rwMy3xglwrprYfE-YznYEHdEzgdQSVUTijFIQ/edit?usp=sharing>

This Schedule is tentative and any changes will be announced in advance and points adjusted. Details on all assignments will be given in class/Canvas! Stay tuned!

Grading

You can receive up to 450 points in this class (subject to slight adjustments). The number of points that you receive will be divided by the maximum number of points possible to calculate your grade as a percentage. If we do not get to all of the activities, the denominator will be adjusted. *Look at schedule above for exact grade breakdown*

In general, I use this to determine final grades:

A	92 - 100 %	C+	78 - 79 %
A-	90 - 91 %	C	72 - 78 %
B+	88 - 89 %	C-	70 - 71 %
B	82 - 87 %	D	60 - 69 %
B-	80- 81 %	F	0 - 59 %

However, since this is a lab class, if you have excessive absences without valid reason (being sick is a valid reason, or being in a very different time zone and letting us know), you will not be allowed to make up assignments and your grade may be lowered, **up to 5% per absence, in addition to the points that you missed**. If you have a lot of absences, I may ask for documentation (Dr. notes, etc).

Accommodations For Students With Disabilities Students requesting accommodations for this course due to a disability must provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) which is located in University Center 202 behind Center Hall. Students are required to present their AFA letters to the Faculty (please make arrangements to contact me privately) and to the OSD Liaison in the department in advance so that accommodations may be arranged. Contact the OSD for further information: 858.534.4382 (phone) osd@ucsd.edu (email) <http://disabilities.ucsd.edu> (website) Do this within the first week of class. You can choose to use your accommodation or not, but you need to decide this up front so that I can accommodate your needs.

Academic integrity Students are expected to do their own work. Cheating will not be tolerated and all suspected cases will be handed over to the Academic Integrity Coordinator. Any student caught cheating will fail the course. Submitting any material written by someone else (copied from a lab member, or from any on-line source) is a violation of academic integrity. For information on academic integrity at UCSD:

<https://students.ucsd.edu/academics/academic-integrity/index.html>

Flexibility with Add/Drop P/NP due to Covid hardship:

The University has become more flexible with the P/NP options. If you are considering taking this class pass no pass, that is fine. I am happy to discuss your decision with you, though I cannot tell you what to do or how this will affect you in the future. I have no idea and no control over how entities outside of UCSD (graduate schools, internships, medical schools, etc.) will view P/NP. You CAN request a grade later, but it will be the grade you earned. So, consider your choices wisely, I do not know how this will affect your future.

Resources for student support

The University of California has a lot of resources for students experiencing non-academic problems. It is your responsibility to utilize the resources provided to you, but if you have trouble accessing these resources, please reach out to me.

Technology: If you don't have a way to access the internet or interact with Canvas, Fill out this form: <https://eforms.ucsd.edu/view.php?id=490887> and contact vcsa@ucsd.edu.

Teaching + Learning Commons The Teaching + Learning Commons offers tutoring, consultations, and workshops on learning strategies as well as assistance with writing in the Writing + Critical Expression Hub <http://commons.ucsd.edu>

SPACES: Book lending service for students <https://booklending.ucsd.edu/>

Community Centers: The Campus Community Centers at UC San Diego build community among our diverse population of students, faculty and staff members. Each provides a forum to increase awareness of social issues, encourage dialogue, build community, improve retention, increase outreach and yield, and foster academic success. For a list of the many campus community centers, as well as other resources to support students, go to: <https://diversity.ucsd.edu/centers/index.html>

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides free, confidential, psychological counseling and crisis services for registered UCSD students. CAPS also provides a variety of groups, workshops, and drop-in forums. For more information, please visit our Counseling Services page. <https://caps.ucsd.edu/>

CARE at the Sexual Assault Resource Center is the UC San Diego confidential advocacy and education office for sexual violence and gender-based violence (dating violence, domestic violence, stalking). CARE provides free and confidential services for students, staff and faculty impacted by sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking. <https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/sarc/>

Undocumented Student Services Center is committed to serving our undocumented students and their families through holistic services. We also advocate for generating a sense of community for all students that are undocumented or come from mixed immigration-status families. <https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/undoc/>

Student Veterans Resource Center (SVRC) is committed to ensuring that military affiliated students successfully make the transition from the military environment to campus life, and are assisted in their progress toward completing their academic degree. In collaboration with other University partners, the SVRC seeks to identify and mitigate the barriers to academic success that are specific to the military affiliated student community.

<https://students.ucsd.edu/sponsor/veterans/index.html>

The Hub (<https://basicneeds.ucsd.edu/triton-food-pantry/index.html>) will point you to resources to meet your basic needs (nutritious food, stable housing, etc). Some of these resources are listed below. I do not know if these resources are available during the campus closure, the website has not been updated

Triton Food Pantry: The University of California believes that all students should have access to nutritious food. <https://basicneeds.ucsd.edu/triton-food-pantry/index.html> I do not know if these resources are available during the campus closure, the website has not been updated