

**BIOL 421-3/611-3  
INSECTS, FUNGI AND SOCIETY  
Fall Semester 2005**

**Instructors:**

<b>Dr. Keith Egger</b>	<b>Dr. Lisa Poirier</b>
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**Course Description:**

From LSD to the Exodus, and from malaria to the Civil War, fungi and insects have played important, but largely ignored, roles in society. In this course we explore the ecological and societal impacts of two of the most abundant groups of organisms on Earth. We examine the biological properties and ecological relationships of insects and fungi that have led to major changes in where and how people live.

**Evaluation:**

<b>Course Component</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due</b>
MFF/I Assignment	10%	My Favorite Fungus/Insect: Each student completes a summary report on an insect or fungus of their choice. There can't be more than one report on any organism, so <b>select early!</b>	21 Sep
Negotiating Session and Assignment of Topic Areas	n/a	Groups will meet in class to negotiate regarding which of the 4 MFF/I organisms the group wishes to select for the group project. Each member of the group will select a <b>subtopic</b> that they will be responsible for completing.	26 Sep
Progress Reports (x2)	7.5% ea	"In class" meetings between groups and instructors to review group progress and assess individual progress on <b>subtopics</b> .	12 Oct 31 Oct
Presentation	20%	Group mark, group members to choose presenter(s) and methodology.	23 & 28 Nov
Term Paper	25%	<b>Individual</b> write-ups on the group project, emphasizing the assigned <b>subtopic</b> .	30 Nov
Final Exam	30%	On lectures/discussion papers.	TBA
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100%</b>		

**Group Project:** After MFF/I Assignments are handed in on Sep 21<sup>st</sup>, the instructors will assign class members into groups of 4 based upon commonality of MFF/I interests (Note: Sep 21<sup>st</sup> is an absolute due date in order to assign students to groups; late

assignments will be awarded a zero grade). There will be two “in class” progress report sessions where instructors will meet with groups to assess progress, assist with information gathering, and determine individual contributions to the groups. The final aspect of the group projects will be presentations to the class and the instructors on the subject of the group project. Students will participate in peer-review of the group reports.

**Textbook:** No assigned textbook, although there will be readings for some classes. Reading will be posted on webCT so that they are available to all members of the class.

**Schedule of Topics:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Instructor/Notes</b>
7 Sep	Course introduction; Impacts of insects and fungi on human history	LP & KE:
12 Sep	Introduction to Insects and Fungi	LP:
14 Sep	...introduction continued	KE:
19 Sep	Ecological roles of insects and fungi	LP:
21 Sep	...ecological roles continued	KE: MFF/I Assignment Due
26 Sep	Formation of Groups and Negotiating Session	ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
28 Sep	Insects, fungi and urban culture	LP & KE:
3 Oct	Impacts of insects and fungi in forestry and agriculture	LP:
5 Oct	...forestry and agriculture continued	KE:
<b>10 Oct</b>	<b>Thanksgiving– No Classes</b>	
12 Oct	Group Project Progress Reports #1	ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
17 Oct	Use of insects and fungi as food	LP:
19 Oct	...Food continued	KE: Last Day To Withdraw
24 Oct	Products from insects and fungi	LP:
26 Oct	Products continued	KE:
31 Oct	Group Project Progress Reports #2	ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
2 Nov	Insects and fungi in aboriginal and ancient cultures	LP & KE:
7 Nov	Insects and fungi and human disease	LP:
9 Nov	...Human disease continued	KE:
14 Nov	Insects and fungi in medicine	LP:
16 Nov	Forensic entomology	Guest: Dr. Gail Anderson
21 Nov	...Medicine continued	KE:
23 Nov	Group Project Reports	ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
28 Nov	Group Project Reports	ATTENDANCE REQUIRED
30 Nov	Course wrap-up / Review	LP & KE: Term Paper Due

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES?**

*IF THERE ARE STUDENTS IN THIS COURSE WHO, BECAUSE OF A DISABILITY, MAY HAVE A NEED FOR SPECIAL ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS, PLEASE COME AND DISCUSS THIS WITH ONE OF THE INSTRUCTORS, OR CONTACT DISABILITY SERVICES LOCATED IN ROOM 7-103.*

## **PLAGIARISM**

***Plagiarism is the very serious academic offence of using someone else's work or ideas, or excerpting text from their written or online documents, without acknowledging them.***

*For example, if you “cut and paste” from a web source and claim that as your own work, this is an extreme case of plagiarism. More minor cases of plagiarism include using sentences or phrases from another published work or web site without putting the direct excerpt in “quotes”, or failing to cite web sources that you used in completing an assignment.*

***PLAGIARISM will result in a minimum academic sanction of a zero grade on the assignment, and in extreme cases may result in suspension or expulsion from the university.***

*The following is excerpted from the “**Academic Offenses**” section in the Calendar.*

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is “the act of using and passing off as one’s own the ideas or writings of another” (The American Heritage College Dictionary 1044). It includes submitting the work of another, and using citations which have been designed in order to mislead the reader as to the nature or authenticity of the source.

Complete plagiarism involves an entire essay or form of creative work of another, from whatever source (including the World Wide Web) being copied and presented as original work. Unless prior written and signed permission is obtained, submitting the same essay, paper or other term work for credit in more than one course constitutes **self-plagiarism**, a situation similar to complete plagiarism.

*If you are still **unsure** what constitutes plagiarism, then consult with the course instructor or review the “Academic Offenses” section of the Calendar for more information on plagiarism and cheating.*

***Remember, anything you can find on the web, we can find on the web.***