

# Senior Seminar

BIOL 4900-0/CRN 30143

Room: Conger Hall (CONH) 107

Lecture Hour: 1:00 to 1:50 PM Monday

Syllabus Supplement

Spring 2016

## I. Instructor/School

<u>Instructor:</u>	Dr. Marvin E. Holtz
<u>Office:</u>	Conger Hall (CONH) 205
<u>Office Telephone:</u>	229-391-5113
<u>E-Mail:</u>	<a href="mailto:mholtz@abac.edu">mholtz@abac.edu</a>
<u>Office Hours:</u>	Monday 12:00 to 12:50 PM and 1:50 to 3:00 PM Tuesday 8:15 to 9:45 AM and 2:00 to 2:30 PM Wednesday 10:00 to 11:45 AM and 2:00 to 2:30 PM Thursday 8:15 to 9:45 AM and 2:00 to 2:30 PM Friday 10:00 to 11:00 AM and 11:10 AM to 12:10 PM (AAC)
<u>School:</u>	Science and Mathematics (229-391-5100)

## II. Required Textbook

None

## III. Attendance Policy

### Senior Seminar (BIOL 4900-0/CRN 30143)

Acknowledging the fact that exposure to any mass of knowledge is prerequisite to learning that knowledge, regular attendance is required for successful completion of the course requirements. Instruction and information within the classroom is unique and is generally difficult to obtain and/or unavailable outside of the classroom in original form. Therefore, regular attendance will ensure that students receive the most appropriate instruction and timely information regarding any course modifications, announcements, etc. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor prior to any anticipated absence or immediately after an unanticipated one (during the next regularly scheduled class which the student attends). The instructor will read the class roll or circulate a sign-in sheet at the beginning of class. Any student arriving after the class roll has been recorded will be marked absent. In addition, any student who misses more than one class may receive a final class grade of "F." Students who miss more than one class may withdraw from the class without penalty prior to the drop without penalty date (**March 1, 2016**).

#### **IV. Withdrawals/Dropping Class**

The last day that a student may withdraw from a course without penalty is **March 1, 2016**. After this date, a student withdrawing from class will receive a WF. Any student who does not officially withdraw from class will receive a final course grade of "F." Please refer to the current online Abraham Baldwin College Catalog for specific details concerning the policy on withdrawing from a course.

#### **V. Academic Dishonesty**

The College-wide policy regarding academic dishonesty is described in the current online Abraham Baldwin College Catalog. For purposes of this course, a zero-tolerance policy regarding all forms of academic dishonesty will be strictly followed.

#### **VI. Grading/Course Requirements**

In accordance with the professional judgment of the instructor, the following point system will be used to determine the final course grade:

200 Formal Powerpoint Presentation

Each student will prepare and present one formal presentation to the class. Each presentation must conform to the guidelines that will be developed through group classwork and discussions. In addition, each presentation will be evaluated using criteria developed by the students and instructor.

100 Peer Evaluations

Each student will submit one peer evaluation for each formal presentation made during the semester. The criteria for the peer evaluation will be developed by the students and instructor.

100 Preparation and Participation

Each student is required to come to each class fully prepared and to make a significant contribution to each class.

100 Comprehensive/Cumulative Final Examination

BIOL 4900-0 (CRN 30143)      4/25/2016 (Monday)      1:00 to 1:50 PM in CONH 107

The final examination will consist of Part I (multiple choice questions) and Part II (short-answer discussion questions). The combination of multiple choice and short-answer discussion questions will be designed to assess each student's knowledge of the concepts and principles related to the Senior Seminar Course.

Total Course Points = 500

Final course grades will be assigned as follows:

90-----100% = A  
80-----89% = B  
70-----79% = C  
60-----69% = D  
0-----59% = F

## Major Field Test in Biology

In order to receive a final grade and credit for the Senior Seminar Course (BIOL 4900), each student must successfully complete the Major Field Test in Biology. The instructor will provide students with the necessary information to make arrangements to complete the test. Students will complete the test in the Student Development Center and the cost of the test will be paid by the ABAC Department of Science.

The Major Field Test in Biology is designed to take two hours and contains about 150 multiple-choice questions of which are grouped in sets and based on descriptions of laboratory and field situations, diagrams or experimental results. The subject matter is organized into four major areas: cell biology; molecular biology and genetics; organismal biology; and population biology, evolution and ecology.

### Notes:

1. All assigned and/or required material will be due at the date/time specified by the instructor and/or the class syllabus. Material will not be accepted after the specified date/time for any reason.
2. In the event that a student's final class percentage is close to but falls short of the next highest grade category, the instructor will consider such factors as classroom attendance, preparation, participation, level of contribution that each student has made to each class, etc. in determining the final class grade. A student's final letter grade will only be elevated if his or her final class percentage is within one point of the next highest grade category.
3. Make-up examinations will not be given. Any student who misses the final examination will receive a grade of zero.

## School of Science and Mathematics Policies

1. Cell phones and all other electronic devices must be turned off during each class or laboratory session.
2. Students enrolled in classes in the School of Science and Mathematics will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of subject matter requiring higher order processing skills. Examination questions may take the form of essay (synthesis, analysis or application), as well as completion, multiple choice, true/false and matching. In addition, computation skills and drawing or diagramming may be required.

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students who have proper documentation and inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

# Tentative Class Schedule\*

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**Dr. Marvin E. Holtz**

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Spring 2016

DATE	TOPIC
January 11	Course Description and Policies/Guidelines for Topic Selection
January 18	MLK Holiday/No Class Meeting this Week
January 25	Discussion and Development of Evaluation Guidelines for a Formal Presentation/Seminar
February 1	Final Review and Discussion of Instructor and Peer Evaluation Criteria for a Formal Presentation/Seminar
February 8	Discussion of Research Techniques for Gathering Information for a Formal Presentation/Seminar
February 15	Final Discussion of Guidelines and Strategy for a Formal Presentation/Seminar
February 22	Student Presentations
February 29	Student Presentations
March 7	Student Presentations
March 14 through 18	Spring Break/No Class Meeting this Week
March 21	Student Presentations
March 28	Student Presentations
April 4	Student Presentations
April 11	Student Presentations
April 18	Student Presentations
<b>April 25</b>	<b>COMPREHENSIVE/CUMULATIVE FINAL EXAMINATION 1:00 to 1:50 AM in CONH 107</b>

\* The specific dates and amount of time for each topic may vary. The topics will be covered in the order listed and each student is expected to fully prepare for each class and make a significant contribution. The instructor reserves the right to make modifications in the amount of time taken to cover the specific course content; the pace at which the material is covered; the sequencing of the content which may include the addition or deletion of material; the number of examinations given; the content covered on each examination and the format of each examination. Each student is responsible for the material covered in each class and is responsible for making arrangements to obtain any missed material.