Biol 120: Natural History

Dr. Jennifer Maupin
Office: EBS 321; Phone: (805) 730-4196
Email: maupin@sbcc.edu; jlmaupin@pipeline.sbcc.edu
Office hours: MR 11:05-12:15, T 2:30-3:30; W 8:30-9:20; and by appointment

Lecture: MW 9:35–10:55 am; EBS 210
Lab: W 11:10 – 2:15 pm; Locations noted in schedule on page 4 and on your lab schedule

Textbook: National Audubon Society Field Guide to California, by Alden and Heath.
Optional Textbook: A Naturalist's Guide to the Santa Barbara Region, by Joan Easton Lentz, 2013
Lab manual: Natural History: A Field Guide to the Natural Features of the Santa Barbara Area, by Anderson and Maupin.

Course overview: Biol 120 is an introduction to the natural history of the Santa Barbara area. Through lectures, labs, and field trips, we will explore local habitats as naturalists, examining plant and animal communities, ecological interactions, and physical influences on ecosystems.
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Distinguish major groups of organisms based on their structures, means of producing or acquiring food, and life history.
2. Identify and describe major ecological, geological, climatological, and historical forces that shape global and local landscapes and ecosystems.
3. Compare and contrast different communities through a description of the diversity of organisms, the biological and physical factors that determine geographic range, and the adaptations that make each species successful in their particular habitat and niche.

This course satisfies the SBCC general education requirement in Natural Sciences, and is transferable to both UC and CSU. This course does not apply toward the Biology major at SBCC.

Course Requirements and Expectations: You are required to enroll in and attend both the lecture and lab portions of this course to receive course credit. You are expected to attend every class meeting. If you miss a class, it is *your responsibility* to obtain information and materials dispensed in that class period **from a classmate**. If you miss more than two labs or three lectures, you may be dropped from the course. **If you complete and turn in fewer than 12 of the 14 lab assignments, you cannot earn a grade higher than a D for this course.**

Classroom Community Rules: In order to achieve a positive learning environment for all, there are some rules that we need to observe as a class. Individuals engaging in disruptive or distracting behavior, as determined by the instructor, may be asked to leave. Here are some general guidelines:

- Arrive to class on time, and do not leave early. Do not leave class and reenter during lecture.
- Do not use cell phones, ear buds, or other electronic devices during lecture or lab.
- **You must receive special permission from the instructor to use a computer or tablet during lecture or lab.** Approved computers or tablets are only to be used for taking notes.
- Do not converse with your classmates (or yourself!) while the instructor or other presenter is addressing the class. If you have a question or discussion item, please raise your hand.
- Be respectful of your instructor, college staff, and your fellow students.

Inclusiveness: The SBCC community supports ALL students without regard to race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, immigration status, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, language, socioeconomic status, medical status or disability. As your instructor, I am committed to upholding these ideals to the best of my

ability. If you face discrimination or aggression inside or outside of the classroom I encourage you to come to me and I will help you identify resources and determine a plan of action. You can read the details of the official SBCC statement here:
http://www.sbcc.edu/boardoftrustees/files/board_resolutions/Resol%2017%20Student%20Success%20Support%20for%20all%20Students.pdf

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/TITLE IX
Sexual Misconduct and gender discrimination is not tolerated at SBCC. Title IX is the law that prohibits this kind of behavior. Please contact our Title IX Coordinator, Linda Esparza Dozer, if you have questions, or concerns about an incident, our reporting procedures, resources available to survivors, or if you just want to talk. Contact Linda at lmesparza@pipeline.sbcc.edu, 805.730.4303, or in A122, More information is also available by looking at one of the Sexual Misconduct/Title IX posters that have been posted campus wide.

Course Assignments:

Assignments	Points	% of Course Grade
Exam 1; Wed, Sept. 25	100	12.2%
Exam 2; Wed, Oct. 16	100	12.2%
Exam 3; Wed, Nov. 13	100	12.2%
Final Exam; Wed, Dec. 11	100	12.2%
Learning Resources Worksheet	10	1%
Lecture activities	5 @ 10 pts. each = 50	6%
Lab assignments	14 @ 15 pts. each = 195	26%
Lab Final Exam; Wed, Dec. 11	100	12.2%
Independent Activity; Due Nov. 20	50	6%
Total Points	820	100%

Exams: Exams will primarily cover material from lectures and handouts, although there may also be questions from the assigned text, labs, or homework. I will review exam structure as each exam approaches.

Exam Make up policy: I understand that unforeseen conflicts with exam times may arise. If you have a conflict or think you will have to miss an exam, contact me **as soon as you become aware of a potential conflict** to see if we can arrange an alternative plan. I will consider each case individually, and a make up exam is NEVER guaranteed. Unless I hear from you **prior to the exam** and approve a request to take the exam on an alternative date, you will only be able to make up a missed exam if you have a note from a hospital or doctor stating that emergency circumstances beyond your control kept you from taking the exam.

Lecture activities: There will be six unscheduled lecture activities. These will be a combination of in-class and homework assignments. **There are no make-ups**. Your lowest lecture activity grade will be dropped.

Labs: Consult the lab schedule on page 4 for information on where we will meet for lab each week. Maps to off-campus locations are in your lab manual. Most labs are field trips. Labs that meet off campus will begin 20 minutes after the regular lab time, at 11:30 am, and will finish by 1:50, so that students can return to campus by 2:15. Completed labs are to be turned in either at the end of that day's lab, or prior to the following week's lab, according to the instructor's directions. It is your responsibility to bring your lab worksheets and required materials to lab each week. **If you do not have your lab worksheet and materials during the assigned lab period, you will lose 3 pts from your lab grade for that week.**

You are responsible for your own transportation for off-campus labs, and **carpooling is encouraged**. Labs begin and end at the field trip location. If you do not have transportation to a lab, please inform me well

ahead of lab time so that arrangements can be made. I will do whatever I can to accommodate students that need rides, so please talk to me if you do not have transportation.

Lab Make-up Policy: If you must miss a lab, contact me as soon as possible (before the missed class) to see if your lab absence will be excused.

Natural History Independent Activity: To complete the Independent Activity, you will spend some time on your own as a naturalist. More information on this assignment will be provided later in the semester.

Turn in assignments ON TIME: Assignments turned in late will be assessed a 10% penalty per day late. No assignments will be accepted after a week past their due date.

Your course grade: Points will be given for each assignment. Final grades will be determined according to the grading chart below. These grades are minimum guarantees ***for students that have attended all lectures and labs and turned in all assignments.*** For example, if you earn greater than 90% of all possible points, you are guaranteed an A. A student earning greater than 83% of points will receive at least a B.

Final Grade Determination

Course grade (minimum guaranteed)	Percentage of total points	Number of points earned
A	90-100%	738 – 820
B+	87-89%	713 – 737
B	83-86%	680 - 712
B-	80-82%	656 - 679
C+	77-79%	631 - 655
C	70-76%	574 - 630
D	60-69%	492 - 573
F	0-59%	0 – 491

Your success: I want you to do well in this course. Please email or come to see me if you have any questions or problems with the course, assignments, or anything to do with your experience here at SBCC, or if you just want to chat about something. It is my job to help you succeed. If I am not able to directly help you, I will try to put you in touch with someone who can. Also, don't think that you should wait until a problem arises to come see or talk to me. Come anytime, no question is too small – students that attend class regularly and keep an open line of communication with the instructor typically perform better in the course.

Course Communication: I use Canvas and Pipeline email for class communication. Check this account regularly to receive important course announcements. I will post grades in Canvas, as they are available.

Academic honesty: Academic dishonesty (including plagiarism) will not be tolerated in this course. Refer to SBCC's academic honesty statement (directions to website are on your Learning Resources Worksheet) for standards of conduct and penalties. **All work submitted must be your own.**

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS) coordinates all academic accommodations for students with documented disabilities at Santa Barbara City College. If you have or think you might have a disability that impacts your educational experience in this class, contact DSPS to determine your eligibility for accommodations.

DSPS is located in the Student Services (SS) Building, Room 160. Their phone number is 805-730-4164. If you have already registered with DSPS, please submit your accommodation requests via the ***'DSPS Online Services Student Portal'*** as soon as possible. This needs to be done each semester. *If you have any questions or concerns about your accommodations, please make an appointment with a DSPS Counselor.*

Complete this process in a timely manner to allow adequate time to provide accommodations.

Lecture and Lab schedule. This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. However, every effort will be made to adhere strictly to the exam and assignment due dates given here. Updates to lecture or lab schedule and/or reading assignments will be communicated in lecture or through Canvas or email.

Week	Dates	Lecture	Reading (Alden and Heath)	Lab
1	Aug. 26 & 28	Introduction; Biological Classification; Ecology	10-15, 31, 80-81	**Lab 1:** Introduction; SBCC Campus. *Meet in EBS 210.*
2	Sept. 2 & 4	**MON: *Holiday, no class*** WED: Geology, ***Learning Resources Worksheet due***	16-21, 28-30	**Lab 3:** Santa Barbara Geology. *Meet in EBS 210.*
3	Sept. 9 & 11	Geology, cont. Evolution	80-90; esp. Algae and Lichens	**Lab 2:** General Geology. *Meet at Arroyo Burro Beach.*
4	Sept. 16 & 18	Biodiversity: Bacteria & Protoctists		**Lab 4:** Seaweeds. *Meet in EBS 210.*
5	Sept. 23 & 25	Botany: Plant Form & Function **WED: Exam 1**	36, 37, 66	**Lab 5:** Plant Communities. *Meet at Santa Barbara Botanic Garden.*
6	Sept. 30 & Oct. 2	Basic Reproduction; Plant Life Histories; Chaparral Community	91-169, skim species info	**Lab 6.** Chaparral. *Meet at Rattlesnake Canyon.*
7	Oct. 7 & 9	Plant/Animal Interactions; Ponds and Lakes	38-43	**Lab 7.** Pond and Lake. *Meet at Lake Los Carneros.*
8	Oct. 14 & 16	Zoology: Invertebrates **WED: Exam 2**	44- 45	**Lab 8.** Sand Dunes, or TBD *Meet in EBS 210.*
9	Oct. 21 & 23	Zoology: Invertebrates, cont.		**Lab 9:** Streams. *Meet at Rocky Nook Park or TBD.*
10	Oct. 28 & 30	Zoology: Vertebrates Island Ecology	48; 170-218, skim species info	**Lab 10.** Salt Marsh & Mud Flat. *Meet at Goleta Slough*
11	Nov. 4 & 6	Vertebrates, cont.	37; 219-375, skim species info	**Lab 13.** Overview. *Meet at Museum of Natural History.*
12	Nov. 11 & 13	**MON: Holiday, no class Wed: Exam 3**	49	**Lab 11**. Sandy Beach. *Meet in EBS 210.*
13	Nov. 18 & 20	Origins of Earth and Life; Start Meteorology WED: ***Ind. Activity due***		**Lab 14.** Monarchs and Meteorology. *Meet at Coronado Butterfly Preserve.*
14	Nov. 25 & 27	Meteorology, Climate and Weather; Rocky Shore	66-69; 48	**Lab 12.** Rocky Shore. *Meet in Isla Vista.*
15	Dec. 2 & 4	Conservation Ecology	58-65	**Review for Lab/Field Final.** *EBS 210.*

Final Lecture Exam: Wed. Dec. 11, 8am – 10am, EBS 210
Final Lab/Field Exam: Wed. Dec. 11, 11:00 am – 1 pm, EBS 210 or 209 (TBA)