

# PLANT ECOLOGY LAB INFORMATION

## INSTRUCTOR

Erik Jules

## REACHING THE INSTRUCTOR

Office: Science D, Rm. 169

Erik's Office Hours:

Tuesday 12:00-1:00

Wednesday 9:00-10:00

Thursday 11:00-12:00

Jen's Office Hours: TBA

Phone: 826-3346

Email: esj4@humboldt.edu

## COURSE GOALS

There are four main goals of this lab course:

1. Gain field experience.
2. Learn how to investigate how plants interact with other plants and their environment.
3. Learn how to carefully test hypotheses.
4. Learn how to convey our findings in writing.

## GRADING

Grading will be based on short writing assignments and participation in lab exercises. Participation will be based partly on your ability to be in class, ready to start by the appointed time. Coming late will hurt your participation score. Attendance is mandatory; you must let me know two weeks ahead of time about dates you can not come to class, and you will be required to make-up the work.

Writing skills are essential in science, and in most every other discipline. You will be expected to work on developing your scientific writing skills during the class.

Final grades will be based on the traditional scheme of  $\geq 90\%$  = A,  $\geq 80\%$  = B, etc... I consider individual cases for students with scores near boundaries.

### POINTS:

Spatial distribution study	50
Ordination study	50
Demography study	50
Dunes study	50
Participation	50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>250 pts</b>

## MISCELLANEOUS

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** Assignments turned in late will be marked down 15% each day they are late. If you have circumstances which warrant a different due date, you *must* discuss this with me at least a week in advance.

**CHEATING:** If you cheat or plagiarize, you will lose all points for that exam or assignment, and the incident will be reported to the University.

**FIELD TRIPS:** We have four field trips this semester, two of which will happen on Saturdays. For all trips, a HSU bus will take us to and from the field site.

## PLANT ECOLOGY LAB SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LAB TOPIC</u>	<u>TIMES*</u>
Jan 19	Course introduction & introduction to the Spatial Distribution Study	11:00 – 2:00
<b>Jan 26</b>	Spatial Distribution Study – fieldwork and data collection	11:00 – 2:00
Feb 2	Analysis of Spatial Distribution Study	11:00 – 1:00
Feb. 9**	No meeting	
Feb 16	Introduction to Ordination Study	11:00 – 1:00
<b>Feb 19<sup>th</sup> (Sat.)</b>	Ordination Study (fieldwork in Prairie Creek State Park)	<b>ALL DAY</b>
Feb 23	Analysis of Ordination Study – meet in computer lab	11:00 – 2:00
Mar 2**	No meeting	
Mar 9	No meeting	
Mar 16	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
Mar 23	No meeting	
Mar 30	Introduction to Demography Study	11:00 – 12:00
<b>April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sat.)</b>	Demography Study (field trip to Humboldt Redwood State Park)	<b>ALL DAY</b>
Apr 6	Analysis of Demography Study – meeting in computer lab	11:00 – 2:00
Apr 13	Analysis of Demography Study – meeting in computer lab	11:00 – 2:00
Apr 20**	No meeting	
Apr 27	Introduction to Dunes Study	11:00 – 1:00
<b>Apr 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat.)</b>	Dunes Study	<b>9:00 – 2:00</b>
May 4	Analysis of Dunes Study – meeting in computer lab	11:00 – 2:00

\* = approximate times only.

\*\* = something is due this day!

### DUE DATES:

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>      Write-up of spatial distribution study  
 Mar 2<sup>nd</sup>      Write-up of ordination study  
 Apr 20<sup>th</sup>      Write-up of demography study  
 May 9<sup>th</sup>      Write-up of dunes study