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## SYLLABUS FOR
### EES 1003 – Introduction to Environmental Sciences Laboratory
#### FALL SEMESTER 2015

**Instructor:** Brittany Kim  
**Section:** 001  
**Lab Time:** Tue 12:30 – 3:10 pm  
**Room:** GP 1009  
**Credit:** 1 hour  
**Office Hours:** 3-5 OR by appointment

**Required Text:** None; handouts from instructors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Scheduled Laboratory Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 26 Tue</td>
<td>Introduction and overview; writing scientifically and presenting research; examples of student projects; three weeks to decide your project topic (handout).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 9 Tue</td>
<td>The basics of scientific writing; scientific format; sections of a scientific paper: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Literature Cited; discussion of what you plan to do (need to decide quickly). Discuss possible projects. Gathering references; what is the first step? LEAVE FOR LIBRARY~1PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 16 Tue</td>
<td><strong>HAND IN TITLE OF YOUR PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT (10 points). FIELD TRIP to Pontchartrain Beach to collect fishes (dress appropriately). Sampling with beach seines. Discussion of local fish species.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 23 Tue</td>
<td>How to identify fish. Identification of Pontchartrain Beach fishes in lab.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 30 Tue</td>
<td>Fish identification quiz (25 possible points).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 7 Tue</td>
<td>Monk parakeets in New Orleans: Are they natural? Are they native? Short lecture on Monk parakeets; discuss research objectives; split into teams and develop sampling strategy and data sheets; submit plan and get it approved before leaving class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 14 Tue</td>
<td><strong>NO LAB</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 21 Tue</td>
<td>FIELD WORK: MONK PARAKEET RESEARCH: All students must meet at lab first; go over last-minute problems; head out for field work; all students need to return to the lab with data before lab ends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 28 Tue</td>
<td>Analysis and presentation of monk parakeet research: each team needs to combine data and decide on a method to present it to the class; discuss possible methods; short presentation of data to class (25 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 4 Tue</td>
<td><strong>HAND IN FIRST DRAFT OF RESEARCH PAPERS</strong> Invasive Species lecture. What makes an invasive species successful? What are some invasive species in Louisiana?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 11 Tue</td>
<td>How to give a talk; examples of good and bad presentations; designing slides; do’s and don’ts; know your audience, practice, practice, practice; judging forms; sign up for presentations time slots; work on projects; practice presentations; early submittal of electronic versions of presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 18 Tue</td>
<td><strong>HAND IN FINAL DRAFTS OF RESEARCH PAPERS</strong> - BEGIN STUDENT PRESENTATIONS (judging forms = 50 points total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 25 Tue</td>
<td><strong>NO LAB</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COURSE GUIDELINES

1. Grades for this course will be based on field quizzes, handing in a title and project proposal on time, submitting a review or research paper, giving an oral presentation at the end of the semester, handing in your critiques of other presentations, and class participation.

2. This laboratory requires attendance at each meeting because time is limited. It will be impossible to learn the material without attending the laboratory. In order to encourage attendance, I will follow the attendance policy listed below:
   a. If you have three unexcused absences over the semester your final grade will be dropped one letter grade from what it would have been without the absences. If you have eight unexcused absences, your grade will be dropped two letter grades, etc.
   b. Absences will be excused only for dates on which you have a valid, dated, medical excuse signed by a health professional or if there has been a death in your family.

3. Grading will be based on a scale of: 90 – 100% = A; 80 – 89% = B; 70 – 79% = C; 60 – 69% = D; less than 60% = F.

POINT STRUCTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIELD QUIZ # 1</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT TITLE AND PROPOSAL</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONK PARAKEET DATA</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIELD QUIZ # 2</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEAM SAMPLING AND IDENTIFICATION</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROUGH DRAFT</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVIEW PAPER (10 pages) OR RESEARCH PAPER (5 pages)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORAL PRESENTATION</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLASS PARTICIPATION</td>
<td>20 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total = 380 points