

**BZ 212 – Invertebrate Zoology
Fall 2007**

Instructor: Dr. Sarah Bevins
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Office Hours: by appointment
Email is often the fastest way to find me when making an appointment or asking questions.

Teaching Assistants: Charles Stone and Broox Boze

Feel free to contact any of us – Dr. Bevins, Charles Stones, or Broox Boze – if you have any questions or need some guidance with the material. We appreciate any useful comments you may have and are here to help you, so don't hesitate to ask if you have questions.

Text: *Invertebrates*, 2nd edition, R.C Brusca and G.J. Brusca
Beck and Braithwaite's Invertebrate Zoology: A Laboratory Manual, 6th edition, R.L. Wallace et al.
On Reserve: *Life on a Little Known Planet*, H.G. Evans
Optional: *Illustrated Invertebrate Anatomy*, S. Pierce and T. Mangel

Course Objectives: This course is designed to familiarize you with the group of organisms collectively referred to as invertebrates. This encompasses up to 97% of all animals on the planet, so in order to be familiar with animals, you need to be familiar with invertebrates. Material will focus on taxonomy, evolutionary relationships, how form follows function, behavior, and a host of other subject areas. By the end of the course, you will be familiar with some of the most unusual animals which are also some of the most amazing. All animal studies are rooted in the invertebrates.

Grading: Final grades will be determined by the distribution of the total scores for the course. Ninety percent of total points will be an A, 80% guarantees a B, etc., but these cut-offs may be lower, depending on overall class performance (i.e. the curve). The lecture and the laboratory are combined for a single grade, therefore, your overall grade will come from a combination of lecture exams, laboratory quizzes, practicals, and presentations. If you feel an exam was graded incorrectly, you will have a chance to state your case in writing within a week after the exams have been returned. Any general questions on grading or the material are welcome at anytime, but re-grades will occur within the one week time period.

Laboratory

Quizzes = 36 points
Practicals = 60 points
Other = 4 points
Total = 100 points

Lecture

Exam 1 (September 13) = 60 points
Exam 2 (October 18) = 70 points
Exam 3 (November 13) = 80 points
Final Exam (December 10: 3:40-5:40) = 90 points
Total = 300 points

Total Points Possible = 400 points

Attendance at all exams is mandatory. You will be excused from exams only in the case of an emergency (e.g. illness, family tragedy, etc.). These emergencies must be documented and medical excuses require a physician's note. This documentation can be left with the biology department staff, addressed to Dr. Bevins, within one week of the absence. You can also get in touch with me by email if you are dealing with extenuating circumstances that prevent you from coming to class.

The exams will primarily focus on lecture material, but information from the laboratory and textbook will be included as well. Exams will be based on information covered since the last exam; however, the final exam will include basic cumulative information.

Lecture Schedule

11:00 – 12:15 Tuesday/Thursday, Fall 2007

<u>Approximate Dates</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
August 21 -- 23	Introduction	1-4, 5, 7
August 28	Porifera	6
August 30 – September 4	Radiates	8, 9
September 6 – 11	Platyhelminthes, Nemertea	10, 11
September 13 – 27	Blastocoelomates	12
October 2 – 11	Annelids	13, 14
October 16 – November 6	Arthropods	15-16, 17, 18-19
November 8 – 15	Molluscs	20
November 27	Lophophorates	21
November 29 – December 4	Echinoderms	22
December 6	Other Deuterostomes	23, 24

The chapters listed above are the suggested readings in the text (Brusca and Brusca). Readings are not evenly distributed, so pace yourself. In general, the text should be used to supplement the lectures. Bold-faced chapters will not be covered in lecture, but the information will show-up on the exam, so reading is especially important.