

**BIOL 7010**

**Special Topics in Ecology and Evolution**

**Spring 2021**

**Meeting time and place:** 5:00 – 6:50 PM, Mondays, BSC 2202

*Instructor:* Jim Loughry

**1. Discussion Leader:** As described above, each of you will lead two discussions during the semester, one involving the review of a manuscript that I have provided to you, and one involving a paper of your choosing. Each of these presentations is worth 100 points.

**2. Review Paper:** Each of you must write a review paper about the topic you choose to present during the second half of the semester. All papers must be turned in by **5 PM, Monday, April 26**. Papers must be written in the style of a journal article (the *Quarterly Review of Biology* and *Annual Review of Ecology and Systematics* provide excellent models) and be exhaustive reviews of the subject. One critical part of this paper will be to provide an extensive bibliography of the literature pertaining to your topic. This paper is worth 100 points.

**3. Peer-review:** You will provide a 1-2 page critique of a subset of the review papers submitted. Each paper will be reviewed by 2 other members of the class, using the reviewing skills you developed during the first half of the semester. As the last part of your reviews, you must assign a numerical grade to each paper, based on a maximum total of 50 points. All reviews of all papers are due no later than **NOON, Wednesday, May 5**. I will then send each of you all the reviews of your paper and its average

## **BIOL 7900 Course Schedule**

Every student in the class will lead the discussion twice. Specific dates for each of you will be determined during the first class meeting, with the stipulation that the four people who have done this before will do their peer review discussions before any of the new people do. Dates for the