BIOLOGY 490 – Desert Biology FALL 2016

MEETINGS: M/W 12:00 – 12:50AM, TNR 300 **INSTRUCTORS:** DR. ROBERT BELL EMAIL: rbell@uwsp.edu 346-2074 OFFICE: **TNR 476** PHONE: OFFICE HOURS: M/W 1:00 – 3:00pm or anytime the door is open and by appointment. COURSE Presentation of topic summaries, readings, writings, and DESCRIPTION discussions pertaining to deserts of the world. **GRADES:** Your grade is based on 100 possible points.... Articles/Written assignments 10 Secret Knowledge of Water Readings/Participation 20 Presentation 1 (organization, content, discussion) 20 Presentation 2 (organization, content, discussion) 40 Other Assigned Readings/Participation 10 SCALE: The grading scale is as follows: 100 - 93 (93%)Α 79 - 77 (77%)C+ 76 - 73 (73%)92 - 90 (90%)A-С 89 - 87 (87%)B+ 72 - 70 (70%)C-69 - 65 (65%)86 - 83 (83%)В D+ 82 - 80 (80%)B-64 - 60 (60%)D F <60 **TOPIC** DATE 09/07 Talk about deserts...... 09/12 SKOW, assign general science desert article 09/14 SKOW, planning 09/19 SKOW, desert selection 09/21 SKOW, assign peer-reviewed desert research article 09/26 SKOW, assign other readings, select second topic, desert classifications – geology and climatology

SKOW, oral research article presentations

09/28

- 10/03 oral research articles and SKOW
- 10/05 oral research articles and SKOW
- 10/10 Chihuahuan Desert (Alex) and Sonoran Desert (Milo)
- 10/12 Mojave Desert (Rachel) and Great Basin Desert (Leah)
- 10/17 Antarctic Desert (Caleb) and Patagonian Desert (Errick)
- 10/19 Atacama Desert (Jon) and Australian Deserts (Amanda)
- 10/24 Saharan Desert (Ethan) and Kalahari Desert (Paul)
- 10/26 Gobi Desert (Peter), papers and writing
- 10/31 Bell Sand and Sand Dunes, papers and writing
- 11/02 Desert Plant Drought Adaptations, Cool Plants, Ethnobotany (Rachel)
- 11/07 Desert Mammals and Drought Adaptations (Leah)
- 11/09 Desert Microbiology 1 (Paul)
- 11/14 Desert Microbiology 2 (Milo)
- 11/16 Desert Chemical Ecology (Peter)
- 11/21 Desert Insects (Errick)
- 11/23 Thanksgiving Break starts early......
- 11/28 Desert Herptiles (Alex)
- 11/30 Desert Birds (Ethan)
- 12/05 Desert Fishes (Caleb)
- 12/07 Desert Peoples (Amanda)
- 12/12 Water Policy and Environmental Protection or not...(Jon)
- 12/14 spare

The GEP Learning Objectives for this course are:

- Complete a project that integrates knowledge, skills, and experiences related to those General Education Program Outcomes appropriate to the discipline.
- Demonstrate skills, processes, and resources needed to make a successful transition from college to the world beyond.

Satisfactory completion of this 490 course requires the completion of the Biology Department's comprehensive exam. Test scores are used to compare class averages among various populations of biology majors to assess general student learning. Scores will not be made available to you or your instructor and will have no bearing on grades. However, your 490 grade will be withheld until the exam is taken. The exam will take approximately 60 minutes and will be offered at the following times:

Wednesday, Dec 7, 6:00-7:00p.m. TNR 120 Thursday Dec 8, 6:00-7:00p.m. TNR 120

Please register for an exam on the sign-up sheet with your instructor. If you cannot attend either of these examination times please contact Dr. Krista Slemmons, kslemmon@uwsp.edu or Nancy Shefferly Nancy.Shefferly@uwsp.edu to schedule an alternative time.