

Research Experience in Panama

Environmental Science (ENV SCI 499/799)

Course Description: This travel course provides science majors with an opportunity to conduct faculty guided field research in tropical rainforests and Panama's Caribbean coast. Preliminary classroom instruction will be offered during fall semester to provide a general background in tropical ecology and Central American culture and history, and follow-up meetings will be held during spring semester 2011.

Instructors	Office	Telephone	email
Dr. Robert Howe	MAC 212	465-2272	hower@uwgb.edu
Dr. Amy Wolf	LS 435	465-5030	wolfa@uwgb.edu

Texts: Kricher, J. and W. E. Davis. 1999. *A Neotropical Companion*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ.
Coates, Anthony G. (Ed.). 1999. *Central America: A Natural and Cultural History*. Yale University Press, New Haven, CT.

Grading: Grade will be based on participation in pre-trip lectures (20%), participation in field research projects (50%), a summary paper or a presentation at the UW-Green Bay Academic Excellence Symposium or Cofrin Center for Biodiversity Student Research Symposium (30%). The paper will be written in the form of a short manuscript (5-10 pages) using the standard format of peer-reviewed scientific journals (Introduction, Objectives, Methods, Results, Discussion). Alternatively, students may present a poster paper according to the standard format used at scientific meetings. Students taking the course for graduate credit will be expected to complete a paper with more extensive quantitative analysis and literature review.

<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Lecture Topic</i>	<i>Readings</i>
Sept. 23	Course introduction and logistics	- list provided at first meeting -
Oct. 14	Introduction to the tropical environment	
Oct. 28	Tropical rainforests	
Nov. 11	Caribbean coastal ecosystems / mangroves	
Dec. 16	Research project descriptions	
Dec. 27 – Jan. 8	- trip to Panama -	
Jan. 20	Data management and analysis	
Feb. 10	Scientific writing and poster presentations	
To be scheduled	Preparations for papers/presentations	

Consistent with the federal law and the policies of the University of Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay provides appropriate and necessary accommodations for students with documented physical and learning disabilities. If you anticipate requiring any auxiliary aides or services, you should contact me or the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities at 465-2671 as soon as possible to discuss your needs and to arrange for the provision of services.