

**Biology 3212FA  
Invertebrate Zoology  
Course syllabus**

**Fall term 2021**

**TEXTS:** Textbook: **There is no required textbook, I can provide advice regarding choices if you would like a reference on hand.**  
Lab Manual: **Available for download from mycourselink (when activated)**

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Joe Carney  
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**LAB INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. J. Carney

**OFFICE HOURS:** posted on office door or by appointment

**LECTURES:** MWF – 4:30 – 5:30 pm – ATAC 1006

**LABORATORY:** Th – 2:30 – 5:30 pm – CB 3012 (**First lab: 9 September 2021**)

**EVALUATION:** Lecture Midterm = 15 % (22 October)  
Lecture Final = 15 % (date TBA)  
iClicker = 15 %  
  
Lab Supermarket = value 5 % (due 18 October)  
Lab Midterm Exam = value 10 % (21 October)  
Lab Final Exam = value 20 % (2 November)  
  
Term Paper = value 20% (due )

**GRADES:** A+  $\geq$  90  
A = 80 – 89 (1<sup>st</sup> class standing)  
B = 70 – 79  
C = 60 – 69  
D = 50 – 59  
E = 40 – 49 (failed)  
F = 1 – 39 (failed)  
F Academic Dishonesty = 0

**Withdrawal without academic penalty:** 5 November 2021



## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course surveys the diversity of animals that lack notochords and/or vertebrae, ranging from single celled species to the great variety of multicellular body forms. Emphasis will be on form and function from a phylogenetic and evolutionary framework. Lectures will proceed through selected taxa following phylogenesis and the evolution of key innovations that define each group. Discussion of key concepts such as species concepts, body plans, and types of development will be incorporated into the lecture material. In the lab you will examine live and preserved specimens, and will be expected to recognize specific structures and understand the function(s) they serve, how they compare to structures that may perform the same (or different) function in other taxa, and how those structures may serve to define taxonomic groups. At the conclusion of the course you should be able to recognize species of the major invertebrate taxa, how they function, survive and persist in their environment and, hopefully, have an appreciation of the great array of animal diversity that currently exists.

## **Course Policies**

### **Exams:**

Missed exams will receive a grade of zero unless you are absent for a documented valid reason such as a family or medical emergency. If you wish to have an exam regraded you must submit a written explanation of why you think the assigned grade was incorrect within 2 weeks of return of the exam. Be aware the entire exam will be re-evaluated and your mark may go up, remain the same, or go down.

**Note:** this does not apply to arithmetic errors such as incorrect addition. You may bring these types of errors to my attention for correction, without a written explanation, at any time.

### **Term Paper**

Papers submitted late will be penalized 10% per day except for a documented valid reason such as a family or medical emergency. Papers will not be graded in the absence of a completed and signed form indicating the understanding of plagiarism in its many forms. **This will require the completion of an online exercise and quiz relating to plagiarism.** Additional direction regarding topics and format will be provided in class.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

(The following is taken directly from the University website, with minor modification.)

The University takes a most serious view of offences against academic honesty. Penalties for dealing with such offences will be strictly enforced.

The following rules shall govern the treatment of candidates who have been found guilty of attempting to obtain academic credit dishonestly.

(a) The minimum penalty for a candidate found guilty of plagiarism, or of cheating on any part of a course will be a zero for the work concerned.

(b) A candidate found guilty of cheating on a formal examination or a test, or of serious or repeated plagiarism, or of unofficially obtaining a copy of an examination paper before the examination is scheduled to be written, will receive zero for the course and may be expelled from the University.

A copy of the "Code of Student Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedures" may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar.

## **iClicker**

The iClicker app on your phone is required for in-class participation and voting in this course. You download this at <https://www.iclicker.com/students/>. iClicker is a response system that allows you to respond to questions I pose during class; you will be graded on that feedback and/or your in-class participation. In order to receive this credit, you will need to register your iClicker (first lab, September 12). iClicker will be used every day in class and in lab.

The iClicker website ([www.iclicker.com](http://www.iclicker.com)) has support documentation, video tutorials, and FAQs for students.

Part of the course evaluation will be through make use of very short inclass quizzes using iClicker app on your phone. You will answer questions in class and lab (all multiple choice). These will provide you and me with insight regarding your understanding of various concepts and principles as the course proceeds. Scoring is 1 point for answering the question and 1 point for providing a correct answer. The final score for the clicker portion of your grade will be based on 80% of the total number of available points. For example, if there are 100 total points, your score will be calculated out of 80. If you answer every question, and get them all wrong, then you would still get 50/80. This allows for absences and reduces any punitive aspect to this part of the grade. It also means you can score more than 100% for this part of your grade, which has happened in almost every class I have done this. If you are not present, then you will have missed that quiz.