INSTRUCTOR
Dr. Chuck Price
Email: cprice9@utk.edu
Office: 105C Claxton Building (NIMBioS)
Office hours: 11-12 Tuesday and Thursday (before class), or by appointment. I will need to leave fairly quickly after class most days, so do not expect to grab me after class and get lots of time.

TEACHING ASSOCIATES.
The teaching associates will help you in a variety of ways throughout the semester. Stay in touch with them. They will give you their contact information, hours and locations when you meet in lab.

Ian Ware (Head TA) ianmware@gmail.com

LEARNING OBJECTIVES. By the end of this course, you will understand the following: how organisms interact with each other and the environment; be able to identify the major ecological patterns in nature and the factors that cause them; and demonstrate scientific quantitative skills, such as the ability to evaluate experimental design, read graphs, and understand and use information from scientific studies.

Any student who feels that she or he may need accommodations for any sort of physical or learning disability, please speak with me after class, make an appointment to see me, or stop by my office.

CLASSROOM COMMUNICATION. Check the Blackboard site (http://online.utk.edu) and your email frequently. All of the readings, handouts and out-of-class assignments will be available on the site, as well as answers to follow-up questions and unclear concepts. If you would like to meet me outside of class, please use your UTK email to schedule a meeting.

Please allow up to 24 hours for responses to your emails. Email will likely not be answered after the workday is over or on the weekends, so please be patient outside of normal work hours.

TEXTBOOK/READINGS. We are using Ecology, 3rd Edition by Cain, Bowman & Hacker. The lectures will make more sense if you do the reading before coming to class. What is covered in lecture is more important than what is in the textbook.

ASSESSMENT.
To assess how well you meet these objectives, you will have three exams during the regular term and one comprehensive final exam. In addition, we will have both quizzes and short assignments as described below.

EXAMS. Exams will focus on reasoning, problem solving, interpreting graphs, and demonstrating an understanding of concepts. The format of exams will include short-answer,
short essay, multiple choice, and simple math problems based on the readings. The exams may also include material from topics in the book that I might not have focused on in class.

Only under very special circumstances, with proper justification, will make-up exams be available and only if I am notified well in advance of the scheduled exam date. They must be taken within 5 days of the scheduled exam date.

**QUICKS**es will happen during class and cannot be made up. Three of the quizzes will be announced, three will not, to reward those who make the effort to come to class. Quizzes will generally be 1-3 questions and worth 10 points. If you get the answer correct, you get full credit. If you are not there, you get a zero. I will drop the worst quiz grade.

**SHORT ASSIGNMENTS** Five short assignments will be given during the semester (dates to be announced and posted on Blackboard). If you cannot make it to class the day a short assignment is due, you must email me the assignment before the start of class that day to receive credit. If you don’t turn in an assignment when it is due, you get a zero. As the name implies, these assignments will be short, not long.

**FINAL EXAM.** The final exam will be comprehensive and include everything we have covered over the course of the entire semester. The format of the final will be multiple choice and short answer. I will provide a list of review topics by the last full week of class.

Your final letter grades will be based on the following total points accumulated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Three exams during the regular term</strong></th>
<th>3 @ 100 points</th>
<th>300</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 in class quizzes, 10 points each</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 short assignments, 10 points each</strong></td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final exam</strong></td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I don’t plan to grade on a curve (although under extreme circumstances, that may be necessary). Grades will be based on the following breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93 – 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90 – 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87 – 89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 – 86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80 – 82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77 – 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73 – 76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70 – 72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67 – 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63 – 66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60 – 62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0 – 59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lecture/Exam Schedule

All lectures and exams will take place in room 415, Nielsen Physics Building.

1/14 Introduction/Course overview/Chapter 1: The Web of Life
1/19 Chapter 2: The Physical Environment
1/21 Chapter 3: The Biosphere
1/26 Chapter 4: Coping with Environmental Variation: Temperature and Water
1/28 Chapter 5: Coping with Environmental Variation: Energy
2/2 Chapter 6: Evolution and Ecology
2/4 Chapter 7: Life History
2/9 Chapter 8: Behavioral Ecology
2/11 **Exam 1**
2/16 Chapter 9: Population Distribution and Abundance
2/18 Chapter 10: Population Growth and Regulation
2/23 Chapter 11: Population Dynamics
2/25 Chapter 12: Competition
3/1 Chapter 13: Predation and Herbivory
3/3 Chapter 14: Parasitism
3/8 Chapter 15: Mutualism and Commensalism
3/10 **Exam 2**
3/22 Chapter 16: The Nature of Communities
3/24 Chapter 17: Change in Communities
3/29 Chapter 18: Biogeography
3/31 Chapter 19: Species Diversity in Communities
4/5 Chapter 20: Production
4/7 Chapter 21: Energy Flow and Food Webs
4/12 Chapter 22: Nutrient Supply and Cycling
4/14 Chapter 23: Conservation Biology
4/19 Chapter 24: Landscape Ecology and Ecosystem Management
4/21 Chapter 25 Global Ecology
4/26 **Exam 3**
4/28 Review for Final Exam
5/4 **Final Exam** 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
**ACADEMIC MATTERS.**
Academic dishonesty of any sort will not be tolerated. Students should refer to Hilltopics for University policies and procedures regarding these instances. You are expected to abide by The University of Tennessee honor statement in all of your university activities.

"An essential feature of The University of Tennessee is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the University, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity." (Hilltopics, the UT Student Handbook)

Copying sentences, portions of sentences, or re-phrasing sentences in the same order as another student’s will all be flagged as plagiarism by the University’s plagiarism software. You may discuss your labs with other students, but write your lab work from your own thoughts. Your written work may be submitted through “SafeAssign” and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

It is expected that all students attending lab will conduct themselves in a manner that is both respectful and accommodating to their laboratory instructors and to their working lab partners/fellow students. Rude and disruptive behavior cannot be tolerated and will result in the dismissal of the student from the lab period and possibly the course. Please place a copy of this syllabus in your lab notebook for reference throughout the semester.

**Other course information**

**Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship Recipients.** All courses for which you are enrolled count toward your attempted hour total. You must receive approval from the Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships when withdrawing from UT or changing your enrollment status from full time to part time in order to maintain good standing for the TELS program. Approvals are only issued for extraordinary circumstances, such as the death of an immediate family member, documented serious illness, or military mobilization. See Financial Aid website at: [http://web.utk.edu/~finaid](http://web.utk.edu/~finaid)

**Final exams.** Finals are scheduled by the University Registrar during the university final exam period. There are no conflicting times. “Students are not required to take more than two written exams on any day. The instructor(s) of the last non-departmental exam(s) on that day must reschedule the student’s exam during the exam period. It is the obligation of students with such conflicts to make appropriate arrangements with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the end of classes.” “All final exams must be given during the final exam period at the scheduled time.” ([http://registrar.tennessee.edu/academic_calendar/finalexams.shtml](http://registrar.tennessee.edu/academic_calendar/finalexams.shtml))

**Disability Services.** If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a documented disability, or if you have questions or concerns about disabilities or
emergency information to share, please contact Disability Services: 2227 Dunford Hall; 974-6807; Email: ods@utk.edu; Website: http://ods.utk.edu/).

Counseling Center: http://counselingcenter.utk.edu/
1800 Volunteer Boulevard, 865 974-2196, Email: counselingcenter@utk.edu

Academic Assistance

Tutoring: The Division of Biology does not offer tutoring services. Contact the Student Success Center and the Academic Support Unit of The Office of Minority Student Affairs for information about tutoring opportunities.

Student Success Center: The comprehensive source for information, services, and resources to assist your success at UT: http://studentsuccess.utk.edu
812 Volunteer Boulevard, Greve Hall, room 324, 865 974-6641, Email: studentsuccess@utk.edu

Academic Support Unit of The Office of Minority Student Affairs offers some tutoring services available to all students, but openings are limited and are filled quickly. The office offers other types academic assistance and support as well: http://omsa.utk.edu/services/, 1800 Melrose Avenue, 865 974-6861, Email: omsa@utk.edu

Technical Assistance
Blackboard, clickers, or general information technology assistance:
Help Desk: 865 974 9900 (M – F, 8:00 – 5:00)
OIT Walk-In Help Desk: Commons South, 2nd floor Hodges Library

OTHER RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

One Stop: http://onestop.utk.edu (start here for any question you have)
Undergraduate Catalogs: http://catalog.utk.edu (Listing of academic programs, courses, and policies)
Hilltopics: http://dos.utk.edu/hilltopics (Campus and academic policies, procedures and standards of conduct)
Course Timetable: https://bannerssb.utk.edu/kbanpr/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched (Schedule of classes)
Academic Planning: http://www.utk.edu/advising (Advising resources, course requirements, and major guides)
Library: http://www.lib.utk.edu (Access to library resources, databases, course reserves, and services)
Career Services: http://career.utk.edu (Career counselling and resources; HIRE-A-VOL job search system)
Peer-reviewed literature: https://webofknowledge.com/ (Web of Science); www.jstor.org/ (JSTOR). These websites can be accessed while on UTK internet OR by logging in with your NetID and password through http://www.lib.utk.edu/databases/