

Syllabus BIOL 5199 – 004 (82807)

Independent Study

Fall 2025

First Day of Class: Monday, August 26st

Last Day of Class: Friday, December 5th

Date to Withdraw Without Penalty (Census Date): Monday, September 8th

Instructor:

Dr. Josh Banta

Director, Center for Environment, Biodiversity, and Conservation

Professor, Department of Biology

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Office Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 – 11:00 am or by appointment

Course Description: Independent study in specific areas of biology not covered by organized graduate courses. A maximum of six credit hours of independent study courses may be applied toward a graduate degree.

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

- (1) Read and process scientific literature.
- (2) Learn the basics of scientific writing.
- (3) Learn to conduct independent research.

Required Texts: None

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated based on the following work:

Participation will count for 100% of the grade. This will include independent research with your advisor.

We will follow a 10-point scale for grading:

90-100% = A, 80-89% = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69% = D, 0-59% = F

Academic Misconduct: Submitting plagiarized work to meet academic requirements including the representation of another's work or ideas as one's own; the unacknowledged word for word use of another person's ideas; and/or the falsification, fabrication, or dishonesty in reporting research results shall be grounds for charges of academic misconduct. Any cheating or other type of academic misconduct will be reported to university administration and at minimum will result in automatic failure of the course.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

Class meeting time TBD. We will meet once per week for 3 hours (3 hours for each 1 hour of independent study). Weekly schedule will be set between the instructor and the student on an individual basis.