

## 1. Course Information

Course number and section: BIOL 4900 (section: B)

Course name: Senior

They will be able to acquire and evaluate relevant information, analyze arguments, synthesize facts and information, and offer logical arguments leading to creative solutions to problems.

The departmental educational outcomes (listed in the university catalogue).

1. Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions in both written and oral formats used in peer reviewed journals and at scientific meetings.

Course objectives or outcomes [Goddard]:

To assess students ability to independently research topics in biology, assimilate the information, and then to disseminate the information in an organized and understandable fashion in both written and oral forms

To administer and evaluate students' satisfactory completion of the ETS Major Field Test in biology and completion of the departmental Senior Exit Questionnaire

5. Assignments (explicitly aligned with the goals, objectives, or outcomes)

General description of the assignments:

- Ø Outline for term paper (due by Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 pt)
- Ø Oral Presentation (40 pt)
- Ø Written Research Paper (due by 10 March, 40 pt)
- Ø Completion of the Major Fields Test in Biology with a score of 140 or higher.
- Ø Completion of the Senior Exit Questionnaire
- Ø Attendance at all scheduled class meetings
- Ø Attendance of and submission of completed evaluation forms for all science seminars (You can have two excused or unexcused absence from the seminar).

\_\_\_\_\_. The ETS Major Field Test is a comprehensive, standardized test designed to evaluate the student's general knowledge in the sub disciplines of biology. The test scores will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the department's curriculum, and VSU's scores will be compared to the national average to identify possible weak areas in our curriculum. Thus, students should take the test seriously and make every effort to excel on it. Completion of the ETS Major Field Test with a score of 140 or higher is a course requirement, and students who fail to complete the ETS Major Field Test will receive a grade of unsatisfactory for the course.

Each individual student is responsible for contacting the \_\_\_\_\_ (Powell Hall West, First Floor, Room 1120; Telephone \_\_\_\_\_) and arranging a time to take the ETS Major Field Test in Biology. Students must complete the Major Field Test by Thursday, 3 February 2011. A fee is assessed to take the Major Field Test. The Biology Department will pay the fee for each student to take the test once. Students who fail to score at least 140 on the test must re take it until a score of 140 is achieved. The student will bear the cost for any re taking of the Major Field Test [modified from Goddard].

\_\_\_\_\_ Attendance and completion of an evaluation form is required for all

Format: powerpoint based (Bring your presentation in a PC compatible memory stick (jump drive))

Time: 12 min presentation + 3 min question/answer

I think seven to nine slides for the presentation is reasonable.

The format of the outline of research paper will

This class is graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Your final grade must be equal

week	Date	Science Seminar	Class / Deadline
1	1/13	None	Introduction / Select Topics
2	1/20	To Infinity and Beyond	Library Research / Sign up for Major Field Test Due (Rebecca Taylor)
3	1/27	Prospective memory performance and very mild dementia: A signature decline	Demonstration /
4	2/3	Enthalpy Entropy Compensation in	

## 8. Classroom Policies

Attendance and tardiness: Any absence policy should conform to the university policy.

University Attendance Policy from the VSU catalogue:

"The University expects that all students shall regularly attend all scheduled class meetings held for instruction or examination. When students are to be absent from class, they should immediately contact the instructor. ***A student who misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes of a course will be subject to receive a failing***

6. You are expected to be practiced and ready to deliver your seminar on the date assigned. Very