BIOL 6000 Topics in Biology I: Climate Change Biology SECTION A Maymester 2011 DEPT. OF BIOLOGY; COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES; VALDOSTA STATE UNIV.

CREDIT HOURS: 3

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Matthew Waters

OFFICE: BSC 1106

OFFICE HOURS - ! "#\$%' (&% PHONE - 333-5760 (229-328-6007) EMAIL: mwaters@valdosta.edu

LECTURE HOURS: MTWRF 2-4:50 PM, Bailey 1024

REQUIRED TEXT: Climate Change Biology by Lee Hannah, Academic Press

ISBN: 0123741820

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An overview of climate change, how biological organisms are used to study past climate change, and how climate change affects biological organisms in recent time periods. Prerequisites: BIOL 1107 and BIOL 1108 OR either BIOL 1107/1108 and GEOG 3150 OR permission of the instructor.

TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE:

LECTURE EXAMS:

Lecture exams will be essay, short answer, and vocabulary definitions. Exams are not strictly comprehensive, although you will need to know the previous material to answer some questions on the future exam(s). Later topics and concepts build on previously discussed material; thus, the course is much like a story that builds on previous chapters.

Final grades are determined as a percentage of total points possible (400):

450 and above (90-100%) =A

400-450 (80-89%) =B

350-399 (70-79%) =C 300-349 (60-69%) =D

299 and below (below 60%) =F

Extra Credit: I DO NOT give extra credit. Please do not ask!

GRADING POLICIES/ASSESSMENT Lecture:

- A. Three (3) lecture exams will be given during the semester, including the final exam. The final exam will not be strictly comprehensive (as noted earlier). Each exam is worth 100 points Make-up exams are not an automatic right; you must notify me within 24 hours of the missed exam, and provide a valid reason, or you will forfeit your opportunity for a make-up. The professor is the final judge of what is an acceptable excuse. You can only make up one exam.
- B. We will read multiple articles from the current literature. I will provide a sheet used to assess the students reading of the papers. These sheets must be turned in at the beginning of the class that the article is discussed and will not be accepted during or after class.
 - Students will be assessed on responses to reflection questions and

Excessive cell phone usage or computer usage not used for the class will be considered a lack of participation in the class. In addiction, failure to attend class without a valid excuse is also considered poor participation. Anyone accessing these electronic devices DURING AN EXAM will be given a zero for that exam grade. The student may be subject to further discipline, up to and including, permanent dismissal and failure of the class.

Cheating: Cheating is not permitted. Any student caught cheating on a lecture or lab exam will receive a failing grade (F) for the course, and will be reported to the Dean of Student Affairs. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: possessing written information on paper, body parts, clothes, etc. pertaining to the exam; accessing cell phones, pagers, or other electronic communication devices; unauthorized entry to the lab after a practical has been set up; as well as other means not specifically listed above.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA; also known as the Buckley Amendment): **By law**, it is not legal to release personal information about an individual to others. This means that grades, averages, test scores, and other information can only be released to that individual; thus, exam scores, point totals, or final grades will not be issued in any unsecure manner, such as being posted, given verbally via telephone, or emailed. This is to ensure your privacy.

Students with Disabilities: Students requiring special classroom accommodations or modifications because of documented disabilities should discuss these needs with the professor at the beginning of the semester. Disabled students not registered with the Access Office for Students with