INSTRUCTOR
Dr. Lee Dyer
Biology Department
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COURSE FORMAT
Lectures by visiting scholars

TIME
Thursday, 4:00–4:50 PM

LOCATION
William Raggio Building (WRB) 2003

OBJECTIVES
There are two primary objectives for the courses:
1. to provide students with an overview of current research being done in the fields of ecology, evolution, and conservation biology, and
2. to provide opportunities for students to meet one-on-one with visiting scholars.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES
1. Students will effectively assess 10 professional scientific presentations.
2. Students will critique the science presented by visiting scientists.
3. Students will gain the ability to understand and summarize complex ideas in ecology, evolution and conservation biology that have been communicated orally.
4. Students will gain strategies for organizing scientific colloquia.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
You are required to attend a minimum of 10 of the seminars, and you are strongly encouraged to meet with multiple speakers. Meetings with speakers are scheduled by the week’s host. You may meet individually (one-
on-one) with the speaker or as part of a group of two or threegrads. Meetings should cover the speaker’s
time (e.g., thesis or dissertation work), and/or career development in science (i.e., the
meeting is designed to assist with professional development and networking within the science community). Meeting over coffee, tea, or your favourite non-caffeinated beverage, or over lunch, is encouraged. The
meetings are completely your responsibility (Dyer will not check to make sure you are meeting with speakers).

You are also strongly encouraged to attend the receptions for the speakers following the talks. These are held
either at the Depot (or Mellow-Fellow) or at faculty or graduate student homes. They provide excellent
opportunities to socialize with visiting scholars in an informal setting. Note that these receptions are not
considered individual meetings with speakers and thus cannot count toward the course requirements.

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At the end of the semester, you are required to compile a list of scientific questions that arise during
colloquium talks. You are encouraged to keep an informal notebook with questions, and even better you
should attempt to ask research questions to the speaker during the question portion of the talk or during
the reception. There is no limit or minimum for the numbers of questions, the assignment is simply an
attempt to get you to think about and communicate questions you have about methodological issues,
theory behind the research, potential follow-up studies, and relevance to broader issues in ecology and
evolutionary biology. This is the only written assignment for the class.

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**GRADING**

Students fulfilling the course requirements will receive an S in this pass/fail class.

**ASSIGNMENT DUE DATE**

8-December, 2017, by the end of the day (SEND TO LEE DYER; ECODYER@GMAIL.COM)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Students can meet with the instructors casually before or after the seminars or by appointment. Appointments
can be made with instructors be contacting them directly via phone or email.

**DISABILITIES**

The Biology Department is committed to equal opportunity in education for all students, including those with
physical or learning disabilities. Any student with a disability needing academic adjustments or
accommodations is requested to speak with me or the Disability Resource Center (Thompson Building Suite
101) as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.

**SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

See this website: http://environment.unr.edu/cecb/colloquium/index.html