

BIO 347

**URBAN ECOLOGY  
SPRING 2006  
(tentative)**

10:00-11:15 TR (214 PHE)  
Lab: 1:30-3:20 M (315  
PHE)

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Rich Mayes ([mayer@gborocollege.edu](mailto:mayer@gborocollege.edu))  
**OFFICE:** 206 Proctor Hall East (PHE)  
**PHONE:** 272-7102 ext. 268 (Office); 668-3977 (Home)  
**TEXTBOOK:** **Understanding Urban Ecosystems, Berkowitz, Nilon, and Hollweg (editors), 2003.**

This course provides an introduction to the composition, ecological processes, and management of urban ecosystems. Topics covered include parks, reservoirs, greenways, urban wildlife, urban social problems, zoning and development, urban ecology education, and environmental politics and problems associated with urban settings.

<b>DATE</b> (Week of)	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>READINGS</b> (for background information)
<b>PART I: BASIC ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES</b>		
Jan 10	Courses details and objectives; What is urban ecology?	Chs 22 & 25
Jan 17	Population and Community Ecology	Chs 1, 3, & 4
Jan 24	Community Ecology continued	Chs 5 & 6
Jan 31	Biomes and Aquatic Ecosystems	<b>Handout</b>
<b>PART II: PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH URBAN SETTINGS</b>		
Feb 7	Waste Disposal	CHs 7 & 11 <b>Handout</b>
<b>FEB 9</b>	<b>FIRST EXAM</b> (covers all material through Feb 2)	-----
Feb 14	Water Treatment	Chs 14 & 21
Feb 21	Air Quality	<b>Handout</b>
Feb 28	Parks and Greenways	Chs 13 & 26
<b>MAR 7</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	-----
Mar 14	Transportation	Ch 18
<b>Mar 16</b>	<b>SECOND EXAM</b> (covers all material from Feb 7 through Mar 2)	-----

DATE (Week of)	TOPIC	READINGS (for background information)
<b>PART III: CITY DESIGN</b>		
Mar 21	Environmental politics	Chs 8, 9, 10
Mar 28	Zoning and development	Chs 13 & 18
<b>PART IV: URBAN CONSIDERATIONS</b>		
Apr 4	Urban wildlife	Ch 25
<b>APR 11</b>	<b>THIRD EXAM</b> (covers all material from Mar 14 through Mar 30)	
Apr 13 (THUR)	Urban agriculture	Chs 16-17,& 18
Apr 18	Urban waterways	Ch 28
<b>TBA</b>	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>	-----

A. **EXPLANATION OF EVALUATION PROCEDURES:**

1. **EXAMS:** There will be three **HOUR EXAMS** as indicated in the syllabus. Each will count **17.5%** of your final grade.
2. **LAB:** There will be periodic lab quizzes and assignments. They will be averaged and count **15%** of your final grade.
3. **FINAL EXAM:** will be given during finals week, and it will count **17.5%** of your final grade.
4. **TERM PAPER:** You will be asked to design a sustainable city. Your term paper will consist of the plans and rationale for this city. It will be due on April 20<sup>th</sup> and will count **15%** of your final grade.

B. **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** You are expected to attend **ALL CLASSES**. However, you will be allowed 3 unexcused absences. More than 3 unexcused absences will negatively affect your final grade. Six or more **UNEXCUSED** absences may result in automatic failure of this course.  
**LABORATORY ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY!**

- C. **COURSE PERCENTAGES:**
- |            |   |       |
|------------|---|-------|
| Exam #1    | = | 17.5% |
| Exam #2    | = | 17.5% |
| Exam #3    | = | 17.5% |
| Lab        | = | 15%   |
| Term paper | = | 15%   |
| Final      | = | 17.5% |
|            |   | <hr/> |
|            |   | 100%  |
- D. **MAKEUP EXAM POLICY:** **ALL** makeup exams **MUST** be taken within **TWO** days after the original exam was given. A student will **NOT** be given a makeup exam unless he/she contacts me personally (with a valid reason for missing the exam) **PRIOR** to the **SCHEDULED** exam time. **NO MAKEUP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER THE ORIGINAL EXAM HAS BEEN RETURNED!**
- E. **HONOR CODE:** This course will be conducted under the Greensboro College Honor Code printed in the **Academic Catalog** and **Student Handbook**. You will be expected to reaffirm this pledge by your signature on each exam.
- F. **GRADING SCALE:**
- |          |   |    |
|----------|---|----|
| 90-100   | = | A  |
| 89       | = | A- |
| 87-88    | = | B+ |
| 80-86    | = | B  |
| 79       | = | B- |
| 77-78    | = | C+ |
| 70-76    | = | C  |
| 69       | = | C- |
| 67-68    | = | D+ |
| 60-66    | = | D  |
| Below 60 | = | F  |
- YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING UP WITH CLASS MATERIAL AS IT IS BEING PRESENTED. NO EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS ARE ACCEPTED IN THIS COURSE.**
- G. **CELL PHONE POLICY:** I realize that, at times, phones will need to be turned on. If you **MUST** take a call, you **MUST** be courteous and go into the hallway until you are finished. **PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING ALL EXAMS. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS LAST RULE WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A VIOLATION OF THE ACADEMIC HONOR CODE.**