

Course Information
Bio 3501, Evolution
Fall 2009

Lectures: M, W 1-2:30, McMillan 149

Instructor: Dr. Kenneth Olsen
McDonnell 303
935-7013
kolsen@wustl.edu
Office hours:
M, W: 2:30-3:30
or by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

	Elizabeth Atkinson	Jessie Geahlen
email:	eatkinson@wustl.edu	jgeahlen@gmail.com
office:	Rebstock 309	Life Sciences 202
office hr:	Fri, Noon-1 pm, or by appt.	Fri, Noon-1 pm, or by appt.
Discussion:	Section 1, Rebstock 309	Section 2, Life Sciences 202

	Kyra Krakos	Josh Reece	Vitas Wagner
email:	knburras@artsci.wustl.edu	jsreece@wustl.edu	vewagner@artsci.wustl.edu
office:	Wilson 403	Wilson 401	McDonnell 312
office hr:	Wed, Noon-1 pm or by appt.	Fri, Noon-1 pm or by appt.	Fri, Noon-1 pm, or by appt.
Discussion:	Sect. 3, McDonnell 412	Sect. 4, McDonnell 212	Sect. 5, McDonnell 361

Course website: <http://www.nslc.wustl.edu/courses/Bio3501/bio3501.html>

Discussion sections: Fridays, 1:00-2:00 **Attendance is mandatory.** The first discussion section will be Sept. 4. There will be no discussion section October 16 (Fall Break) or November 27 (Thanksgiving break).

Discussion sections will focus on empirical scientific studies relating to lecture topics. The assigned discussion section readings can be downloaded from the course website. Topics from discussion section readings will be covered on exams.

Lecture powerpoint handouts will also be posted on the course website.

Text: *Evolution* by D. Futuyma, Sinauer, 2nd edn., 2008 (on reserve in Olin library)

Exams: Three in-class exams —

Wednesday, September 30

Monday, November 2

Monday, December 7

Final exam (optional): **Monday, December 14, 3:30 pm — 5:30 pm, McMillan 149**

Exams cover lectures, readings, and material from the discussion sections.

Papers: There will be two writing assignments of 4-6 typewritten (double-spaced) pages. Papers will be critical analyses of assigned readings from the primary literature. Details will be given in class.

Due dates:

Wednesday, October 28

Wednesday, December 2

Grading: Exams count for 70% of your grade (in-class exams and final weighted equally). Each paper counts for 10% of the grade. 10% of the grade is based on discussion section performance.

Course description:

Biology 3501 is an introduction to evolutionary biology. The course covers microevolutionary processes that occur within populations, species diversification, and macroevolutionary patterns among groups of species. The course is concerned primarily with the theory underlying evolutionary biology, but it will include much discussion of empirical data and examples. The course will not cover the evolutionary history of specific lineages through time (e.g., vertebrates, mammals, humans).

The goals of this course are two-fold: first, to introduce students to the breadth and scope of evolutionary biology; second, to enhance the analytical skills of students through reading of primary literature and writing critical papers.