

## BSC 4933 | Parasitology, Fall 2011

### INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Marc Lajeunesse (said LA-JE-NESS)  
*Department of Integrative Biology*  
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### TEACHING ASSISTANT

Patrick Stanley, Email: [pdstanley@mail.usf.edu](mailto:pdstanley@mail.usf.edu)  
 Office: TBA, Office Hours: TBA, or by appointment

### TEXTBOOK

*There is no textbook for the course. We will be relying heavily on journal articles and chapters from multiple books (see Lecture Material). Still, for a fun read, we highly suggest you have a look at: Zimmer, C. (2000) Parasite Rex. New York, NY: Free Press.*

### LECTURE MATERIAL

The Blackboard system (<https://my.usf.edu/>) will contain *all the readings* (in PDF form), lecture notes, PowerPoint handouts, midterm results, grades and important messages. **You must consult this weekly** to keep track of any changes in lecture material, handouts, or exam schedules.

### COURSE OVERVIEW

A traditional parasitology course emphasizes the major parasites of humans and domestic animals.

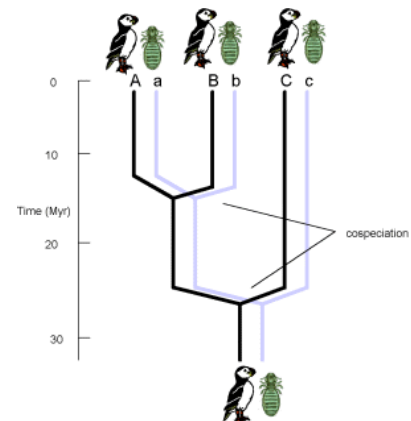
However, parasitic taxa span the plant and animal kingdoms, so what we will emphasize is a comparative survey to the phenomenon of *parasitism*.

With this in mind, our course will explore, without limitations, the broad diversity of parasitic lifestyles found in nature—mixing research from gall wasps, mistletoe, malaria, cuckoos, tapeworms, ticks—while integrating key principles of ecology and evolution. This integration is necessary to explain the abundance, distribution and diversity of parasites.



### TENTATIVE LECTURE SCHEDULE (lecture times: MWF 9:40-10:30am, room: PHY 118)

DATE	TOPIC
week 1 (Aug 22, 24, 26)	introduction, concepts of parasite biology
week 2 (Aug 29, 31, Sept 2)	concepts of parasite biology, parasitic Chordata
Sept 5	No class, Labor Day
week 3 (Sept 7, 9)	hemi- and holo-parasitic plants
week 4 (Sept 12, 14)	parasitic fungi, review
<b>exam I (Sept 16)</b>	<b>weeks 1 to 4 to be covered</b>
week 5 (Sept 19, 21, 23)	introduction to Platyhelminthes
week 6 (Sept 26, 28, 30)	Trematoda, Cestoda
week 7 (Oct 3, 5, 7)	Cestoda, Nematoda
week 8 (Oct 10, 12)	Nematoda, review
<b>exam II (Oct 14)</b>	<b>weeks 5 to 8 to be covered</b>
week 9 (Oct 17, 19, 21)	Introduction to Arthropoda
week 10 (Oct 24, 26, 28)	Arthropoda II
week 11 (Oct 31, Nov 2, 4)	Protozoa, Sarcomastigophora
week 12 (Nov 7, 9, 11)	Sarcomastigophora, Apicomplexa
week 13 (Nov 14, 16)	Apicomplexa, review
<b>exam III (Nov 18)</b>	<b>weeks 9 to 13 to be covered</b>
week 14 (Nov 21, 23)	Trends in parasitology
Nov 25	No class, Thanksgiving
week 15 (Nov 28, 29, Dec 2)	Trends in parasitology, Global health issues
<b>final exam (Dec TBA)</b>	<b>Weeks 1 through 15 covered</b>



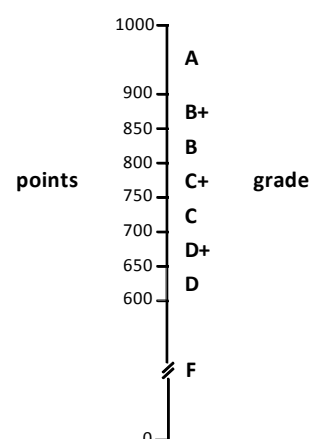
## BSC 4933 | COURSE EVALUATIONS

**GRADES.** There will be a total of 1000 points available in this course in the form of exams and homework assignments through Blackboard. These are assigned as:

assignment	points
in class Exam I	320
in class Exam II	320
in class Exam III	320
homework on Blackboard	40
(optional) cumulative final exam	320
<b>total</b>	<b>1000</b>

**There is no curve for this course.** However, if midterms, assignments and the final exam turn out more difficult than anticipated, the grades will be adjusted upwards. The absence of a curve guarantees that students scoring 900 or above will receive an A regardless of the grade adjustment.

### GRADING SCALE



**ATTENDANCE.** Attendance is expected but not mandatory. You are all adults capable of making your own decisions about the costs and benefits of attendance. However, it is our opinion that absences will impair your academic performance and comprehension of the material, which in turn will affect your success in the course. Students are responsible for all material covered in class and any announcements or schedule changes made during class regardless of attendance history.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY.** The University and Divisions does not tolerate academic dishonesty and punishment will be imposed for academic dishonesty of any kind (see Undergraduate Catalogue for University guidelines on punishment, as well as the document linked below). The Department of Integrative Biology (IB) has specific guidelines pertaining to academic dishonesty, and this course follows these guidelines. These guidelines are found at:

[DEPARTMENT OF INTEGRATIVE BIOLOGY INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES FOR STUDENTS](http://biology.usf.edu/ib/data/admin/2011-2012_Student_Information.pdf)  
([http://biology.usf.edu/ib/data/admin/2011-2012\\_Student\\_Information.pdf](http://biology.usf.edu/ib/data/admin/2011-2012_Student_Information.pdf))

**EXAMS.** There will be three in-class multiple choice exams and an **optional** final cumulative (multiple choice) exam. The final will cover all the material of the term. The final exam will replace your lowest exam grade regardless of whether the final exam grade is higher or lower than your lowest exam grade. **Hence, taking the final exam could hurt or help you.** If a student misses an exam due to an expected or unexpected absence, the final exam will replace their zero score. If a student misses more than one exam, the final exam will only replace one of the missed exams. All exams will require students to memorize, synthesize, and apply their knowledge in a new context. Your exam copy and scantron must be returned at the end of the exam.

**What you should have...**

- 1) number 2 pencil with a good eraser
- 2) USF ID or Driver's License that will be checked at the start and end of the test

**What you should put away and adjust...**

- 1) any electronic device
- 2) notes, textbook, study cards
- 3) sunglasses or hats must be worn backwards or removed, and hoodies must not cover head

If you miss an exam, but have a documented excuse, you must take the exam within 48 hours of the scheduled exam time. If you miss two exams you should withdraw from the course. If you are late for the exam and any students have already completed and left the exam, you may not be allowed to take the exam. Students anticipating missing an exam due to a religious holiday, or have a scheduled conflict with documentation, must provide a written notice to me ([lajeunesse@usf.edu](mailto:lajeunesse@usf.edu)) at least one week before the exam.

Exam scantron sheets will be available at my office (SCA306) within a week following the exam. If at any time you believe there is **an error with your recorded score**, email me and I will check it against the computer output from the grading center. Corrections can be made only if your exam was graded by the wrong answer key or if your score was incorrectly entered in the gradebook. Exam scores cannot be corrected due to your errors in marking the scantron—it is your responsibility to make clean and accurate responses.