

**BIOLOGY SPRING FIELD TRIP
SYLLABUS
March 17-25, 2012**

TRIP TO EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

Instructors: Walt Rainboth, Bea Holton, Anita Carpenter
Phone: -0121 (WR); -7087 (BH)
Office: HS52 (WR); HS42(BH)

Meeting times (classroom): 5-6 pm in HS 51, Wed., Feb. 8, 22, March 7, 14

Meeting time (trip) – arrival in FL Sat. March 17, 5:30a.m. – Sun. March 25, about noon!

Office Hours: T 3:20 - 6pm; W 3:40 - 5pm; R 4:20 - 6pm

Grading: 45% project/journal, 45% interest and participation, 10% incorporation into the project/journal background material presented at meetings BEFORE we go.

Journal: Students keep a daily journal in which observations of a biological and ecological nature are recorded. You would, for example, describe/draw/photograph birds that you have seen or fish or other animals or plants. You would describe/draw/photograph different ecosystems that we have visited and write about their similarities/differences. In this case, use information from the two lectures that will be given during the course's "class" component. You might compare what you see and hear in the morning compared to afternoon and evening and night. (If sufficiently detailed, this sort of comparison could be considered a project, as well.) The underlying purpose of the journal is to coax students to spend a lot of time observing their surroundings.

Interest/participation: The instructors will assess how much energy students have devoted to learning about the Everglades. Some students sleep in and stay up late goofing off but then do as little as possible when we're out on hikes, canoe trips, etc. Their projects/journals tend to consist of pictures downloaded from the web. These students fit into the "low interest" category. High interest students are ones who get up (at least once or twice) at the crack of dawn to bird watch or go out to shine spiders and alligators (where appropriate) at night. They are constantly looking and thinking and observing during hikes and canoe trips, and frequently pointing out things to others.