Junior Seminar – Biology 391

Room \_\_\_\_- Forbes **Department of Organismal and Environmental Biology**

Christopher Newport University

Fall Semester, 2018

Instructor: Adam M. Lundquist Room 216 Menchville High School (office);

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Office Hours: by appointment; Tuesdays, & Thursdays 1730 to 1800, Wednesdays 1600 - 1700

Format:

Junior Seminar is a required one-credit writing-intensive class with each section potentially having a different topic. Students will present reports orally and write short papers focusing on **the process of writing** for clear communication of a biological subject matter, partially satisfying the University writing intensive requirement.

Course objectives:

1. Use literature databases to search and obtain journal articles relevant to a given topic*,*

2. Summarize literature relevant to a given topic*,*

3. Organize and write a series of literature review papers,

4. Prepare and deliver a brief scientific presentation with sufficient knowledge to answer pertinent   
 questions.

Structure:

The biological content for this course is **TBD by students**. After the first two classes, we will be reading assigned articles of scientific literature for six weeks. During the final six weeks, students will give oral presentations on a chosen topic approved by the instructor.

Grading:

Grades will be based on written assignments, participation, and a presentation.

* **Written Assignments (70%) --** Plenty of writing will be accomplished in this class. Students are expected to submit weekly journal article evaluations and an outline, annotated bibliographies, rough draft, and a final summary paper. Details and expectations will be provided in class.
* **Participation (20%) --** Be prepared to make comments, ask questions, and answer questions about all that is read. Participation points will only be awarded if you actively contribute to a discussion. **If more than two participation days/activities are missed, points earned will be reduced to zero.**
* **Presentation (10%) --** Students will create a 11-12 minute PowerPoint presentation on a topic of your choice [again, after an OK from the instructor]. Format and expectations will be discussed during class.

Final grades are assigned as follows: 93 and above = **A**; 90-92 = **A-**; 87-89 = **B+**; 83-86 = **B**; 80-82 = **B-**; 77-79 = **C+**; 73-76 = **C**; 70-72 = **C-**; 67-69 = **D+**; 63-66 = **D**; 60-62 = **D-**; below 60 = **F**

Important dates to know:

August 31st - last day to add/drop and change to audit status;

October 24th - last day to withdraw and elect pass/fail option.

Students are expected to observe the CNU Honor Code (see Student Handbook). All graded work must be your own. Plagiarism and cheating **will not be tolerated**. These are very serious offenses and will be dealt with appropriately, potentially resulting in expulsion.

All athletes or students participating in University sponsored activities that conflict with class times need to see me within the first two weeks of class with their activity-conflict schedule. If conflict exists, only an advance quiz or exam may be taken.

Other Information:

**Attendance policy:**

**Students are expected to attend all labs**. There will be no opportunity to make-up missed lab activities. Students who miss class due to a medical or family emergency must contact Mr. Lundquist *as soon as possible* to discuss their individual situation. Students who miss class to represent the university must contact Mr. Lundquist *in advance* if they wish to arrange an alternative activity to receive credit for the week’s assignment.

With the exception of an emergency in the field (not the case for these classes), cell phones are not to be used at any time during lab; please do not answer calls, make calls, **text**, or check your phone display in the classroom or in the field. **Second warning will involve dismissal from class and an incomplete for the lab.**

**Academic integrity:**

**Students will strictly adhere to the high level of academic conduct expected of the CNU community.** Each student’s work submitted for evaluation should be the *sole product of that student’s* effort unless specifically instructed otherwise. Violations of academic integrity include (1) all forms of cheating, including but not limited to copying another student’s work, submitting false or constructed data, stealing or fraudulently obtaining exam questions or answers, and collaborating with other students when the instructor has designated the work should be done individually; (2) plagiarism, including submitting the written work of another as one’s own; and (3) aiding another student in cheating. It is the responsibility of every student and instructor to report violations of academic integrity. Cases of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to university policy. Students should familiarize themselves with the CNU Honor Code found in the University Handbook.

**Disabilities:**

In order for a student to receive an accommodation for a disability, that disability must be on record in the Office of Student Affairs, 3rd Floor, David Student Union (DSU). If you believe that you have a disability, please contact Dr. Kevin Hughes, Vice President of Student Affairs (594-7160) to discuss your needs. Dr. Hughes will provide you with the necessary documentation to give to your professors.

Students with documented disabilities are to notify the instructor at least seven days prior to the point at which they require an accommodation (the first day of class is recommended), in private, if accommodation is needed. The instructor will provide students with disabilities with all reasonable accommodations, but students are not exempted from fulfilling the normal requirements of the course. Work completed before the student notifies the instructor of his/her disability may be counted toward the final grade at the sole discretion of the instructor.

**Success:**

I want you to succeed in this course and at Christopher Newport. I encourage you to come see me during office hours or to schedule an appointment to discuss course content or to answer questions you have. If I become concerned about your course performance, attendance, engagement, or well-being, I will speak with you first. I also may submit a referral through our Captains Care Program. The referral will be received by the Center for Academic Success as well as other departments when appropriate (Counseling Services, Office of Student Engagement). If you are an athlete, the Athletic Academic Support Coordinator will be notified. Someone will contact you to help determine what will help you succeed. Please remember that this is a means for me to support you and help foster your success at Christopher Newport.

**Academic Support:**

The Center for Academic Success offers free tutoring assistance for Christopher Newport students in several academic areas. Staff in the center offer individual assistance and/or workshops on various study strategies to help you perform your best in your courses. The center also houses the Alice F. Randall Writing Center. Writing consultants can help you at any stage of the writing process, from invention, to development of ideas, to polishing a final draft. The Center is not a proofreading service, but consultants can help you to recognize and find grammar and punctuation errors in your work as well as provide assistance with global tasks. Go as early in the writing process as you can, and go often!

You may visit the Center for Academic Success to request a tutor, meet with a writing consultant, pick up a schedule of workshops, or make an appointment to talk one-on-one with a University Fellow for Student Success. The Center is located in Christopher Newport Hall, first floor, room 123.

Junior Seminar Biology 391

Room 1027-Forbes Fall, 2018

Instructor: Adam M. Lundquist

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| **Week of:\*** | **Lab Exercise** | **Assignments Due** |
| Aug 27 | Introduction and Discussion |  |
| Sept 3 | Trible Library: Content Search Skills | Articles to share (2 or more) |
| Sept 10 | Article and evaluation 1 | Article 1 evaluation |
| Sept 17 | Article and evaluation 2 | Article 2 evaluation |
| Sept 24 | Article and evaluation 3 | Article 3 evaluation |
| Oct 1 | Article and evaluation 4 | Article 4 evaluation |
| Oct 8 | Article and evaluation 5 | Article 5 evaluation |
| Oct 15 | **Fall Break – No Lab** | |
| Oct 22 | Peer review | Outline and Annotated Bibliography 1 |
| Oct 29 | Peer review | Rough draft and Annotated Bibliography 2 |
| Nov 5 | Presentations [2] |  |
| Nov 12 | Presentations [3] |  |
| Nov 19 | **Thanksgiving Break – No Lab** | |
| Nov 26 | Presentations [3] |  |
| Dec 3 | Presentations [3] |  |
| Dec 10 | Presentations [3] | **FINAL PAPER** |

\*subject to change as necessary