

BOT 6935/ZOO 6927 - Origin of Species Seminar

Catalog Description

We will discuss Charles Darwin's book *On the Origin of Species*, a work that is the cornerstone of modern evolutionary biology.

Credit Hours

1

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

None

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

- Discuss *On the Origin of Species*, its conception, Darwin's views on "the species question", and the role of the *Origin* in modern evolutionary biology

Instructor Information

Name: Emily Sessa

Office location: Bartram 521

Telephone: 352-392-1098

E-mail address: emilysessa@ufl.edu

Web site: sessalab.biology.ufl.edu

Office hours: By appointment

Course Meeting Time(s)

To be determined

Course Meeting Location(s)

To be determined

Course Website

Course materials and related information will be posted on the course E-Learning (Sakai) website at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. You are responsible for all announcements made in class and/or posted on the course website for this course.

Required Materials

Textbook or Other Readings

On the Origin of Species: A Facsimile of the First Edition. Harvard paperbacks. ISBN-13: 978-0674637528, ISBN-10: 0674637526. **This edition of the book is required!**

Course Outline

Week	Topic
1	Class introduction
2	Introduction; Chapter 1: Variation under Domestication
3	Chapter 2: Variation under Nature
4	Chapter 3: Struggle for Existence
5	Chapter 4: Natural Selection
6	Chapter 5: Laws of Variation
7	Chapter 6: Difficulties of Theory
8	Chapter 7: Instinct
9	Chapter 8: Hybridism

10	Chapter 9: On the Imperfection of the Geological Record
11	Chapter 10: On the Geological Succession of Organic Beings
12	Chapter 11: Geographical Distribution
13	Chapter 12: Geographical Distribution— <i>continued</i>
14	Chapter 13: Mutual Affinities of Organic Beings: Morphology: Embryology: Rudimentary Organs
15	Chapter 14: Recapitulation and Conclusion

Attendance Policy

The policies for allowable absences and make-up work follow the university attendance policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. The student will remain responsible for scheduling any make-up work with the instructor.

Conduct in Class

- Please be courteous and do not talk during lecture. This can be distracting to other students and the instructor.
- Only approved electronic devices may be used in class. Approved electronic devices are laptop computers (when used to take notes or otherwise participate in classroom activities) and voice recording devices. Unapproved electronic devices include cell phones, video recorders, digital cameras and MP3 players.

Grading

- Participation: 100%
- Students are expected to contribute to discussions and ask questions of their peers and instructors based on the primary and any supplementary readings.

UF Counseling Services

- Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. The resources include:
 - UF Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575, psychological and psychiatric services.
 - Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career and job search services.
- Many students experience test anxiety and other stress related problems. “A Self Help Guide for Students” is available through the Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575) and at their web site: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>.

Honesty Policy

- All students registered at the University of Florida have agreed to comply with the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”
- In addition, on all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied: “*On my honor I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*”
- If you witness any instances of academic dishonesty in this class, please notify the instructor or contact the Student Honor Court (392-1631) or Cheating Hotline (392-6999). For additional

information on Academic Honesty, please refer to the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

- Students who will require a classroom accommodation for a disability must contact the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources, in Peabody 202 (phone: 352-392-1261). Please see the University of Florida Disability Resources website for more information at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/services/>.
- It is the policy of the University of Florida that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed. Once notification is complete, the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources will work with the instructor to accommodate the student.

U Matter, We Care

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.