

Biology/Marine Science 156L
Natural History and Conservation of the Hawaiian Islands—Field Trips
Spring 2004 Fridays 12-5 pm MSB 101
Dr. Becky Ostertag and Dr. Karla McDermid

Course Description: This course provides students with exposure to the tremendous diversity of ecosystems found on Hawai'i Island (the Big Island). Course will cover the natural history of these ecosystems, including organisms, food webs, stand structure, geology, climate, disturbance regime, resource use and cycling, and productivity, and conservation threats and challenges. You will learn about key species and distinguishing features of ecosystems.

Textbook: None required, but a variety of books will be on reserve at the UHH library, which you will need to use for assignments. In addition, the following book will be used for the lecture portion of the course, which we highly recommend:

Ziegler, Alan C. 2002. *Hawaiian Natural History, Ecology and Evolution*. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu. 477 pp.

Grading: Assignments for the course will include worksheets from field trips (50%), a journal in which you describe the habitat fully and research two organisms on every fieldtrip (50%). Both are due at the next class meeting.

90-100%=A- to A, 80-89%=B- to B+, 67-79%=C- to C+, 50-66%=D, below 50%=F

Field Trips: Be aware that you are responsible for being prepared to be in the field. This might mean rainy, hot, or cold weather, insects, difficult terrain for walking, etc. Please bring with you

- Closed-toed shoes (hiking boots, tennis shoes). No slippers!!!
- Water, sunscreen, hat, bug repellent
- A field notebook
- Raincoat or umbrella

You will be responsible for the attending every field trip and for any reading assignments, handouts, or discussions. The field trips cannot be made up so missing one will affect your grade. Homework assignments turned in late will not receive full credit.

If you have any questions during the semester, please contact the professors by phone, email, messages left in our mailbox at the Natural Sciences Division Office (LS2).

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Office hours this semester: _____

Dr. Karla McDermid, Marine Science Bldg. 117 mcdermid@hawaii.edu phone: 933-3906

Office hours this semester: _____

Any student with a documented disability who would like to request accommodation should contact the University Disability Services office at 933-0816 (V), 933-3334 (TTY), Campus Center Room 311, as early in the semester as possible.

Course Goals: Upon completion of this course, you should know:

- *The physical environmental of the Hawaiian Islands, the physical factors that have shaped these islands, and the distinguishing features between different ecosystems*
- *The processes that contribute to the diversity of the Hawaiian landscape, and the uniqueness of the Hawaiian organisms*
- *The common native species of plants and animals in Hawaiian ecosystems*
- *The effects of humans on the Hawaiian environment and the threats and challenges involved in conserving Hawaiian ecosystems*

Date	Field Trip
Jan 16	Introduction and Northwest Hawaiian Islands Learning Center, Hilo
Jan 23	Hawaiian Geology, Lava, and Succession—Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park
Jan 31	Independent Study
Feb 6	Montane Wet Forest and Ka`u Desert—Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park
Feb 13	Marine Environments (Hilo)
Feb 20	Independent Study
Feb 27	Keauhou Bird Propagation Facility and UH Experimental Station
March 5	Independent Study
March 12	Anchialine Ponds
March 19	Dry Forest—Ka`upulehu Reserve
March 26	Spring Break
April 2	Alpine Environments of Mauna Loa
April 9	Independent Study
April 16	Lowland Wet Forests in Puna
April 23	Independent Study
April 30	Mesic Forest—Manuka Natural Area Reserve (last class day)