

DIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY

BIO 213



Instructor: Laura I. Gonzalez

Office hours: T, TH 15-16:30

Office: Bio Lab 114 CB

E-mail: ligg@mail.utexas.edu

Phone: 471-5368

Teaching Assistant: Krushnamegh Kunte

Office Hours: E-mail/call me and drop by

Office: Patterson 627

E-mail: krushnamegh@mail.utexas.edu

Phone: 471-4506

- **Course website:**
www.sbs.utexas.edu/gonzalez/bio213.htm
- **Course description:** Bio 213 is a required course for students pursuing a Major in the Natural Sciences. It provides an introduction to the general patterns of biological diversity and the mechanisms behind it.
- **Recommended Text:** Campbell, N. A. and J. B. Reece. 2002. Biology, 6th Edition. Benjamin Cummings, San Francisco.

Lectures

- T, TH: 11:00-12:00 at TAY 2.006
- Outlines posted on course website evening before (by 6:00 PM) each scheduled lecture

Why attend lectures?

- Demonstrations of key points to learn
- Thorough explanations of novel or tricky concepts and terms
- Exams will be solely based on lecture material

Discussions

- See syllabus for schedule
- Discussion of scientific articles and lecture participations
- Articles posted on the web by TH evening (except those for week 1: <https://webpace.utexas.edu/kuntekj/Bio213>)
- Exam reviews

Why attend discussions?

- Designed to reinforce the lecture material
- 15% of final grade
- 11 participations worth 3 points/each for a total of 33 points
- 7 articles worth 6 points each for a total of 42 points

Discussion

- Participations: weekly quizzes on last week lectures. Remember you'll get points even if answers are wrong!
- Questions for reading assignment posted same day article is posted
- See/e-mail TA for any scheduling conflicts
- There will be possible re-scheduling of section [46595](#)

Exams

- Four lecture exams worth 100 points each
- Multiple choice/matching and short essay questions (samples on course web site)
- No short essays on the fourth exam
- See syllabus for schedule
- No restrooms/water/etc breaks allowed
- Student ID will be required

Exams

- Possible re-scheduling of Exam IV. Two options:
 - Maintain May 6th date
 - Move to May 12th
- Bldg and room for each exam will be posted in web site

Exams

- Missed exams only made up in **EXTREME** situations:
 - Family emergency
 - Health issues
 - Religious holidays

Grading

- Total of 475 points
- 400 for lectures
- 75 for discussions
- Final grade assigned on a curve
- No extra points

How to study for course

- Attend lectures and discussions
- Read book chapters before class
- Read discussion articles
- Understand article/participation questions
- Ask questions
- Don't fall behind

Scope and organization of Course

- Diversity
 - What is life?
 - Evolution
 - Systematics
 - Ecology
- Course schedule

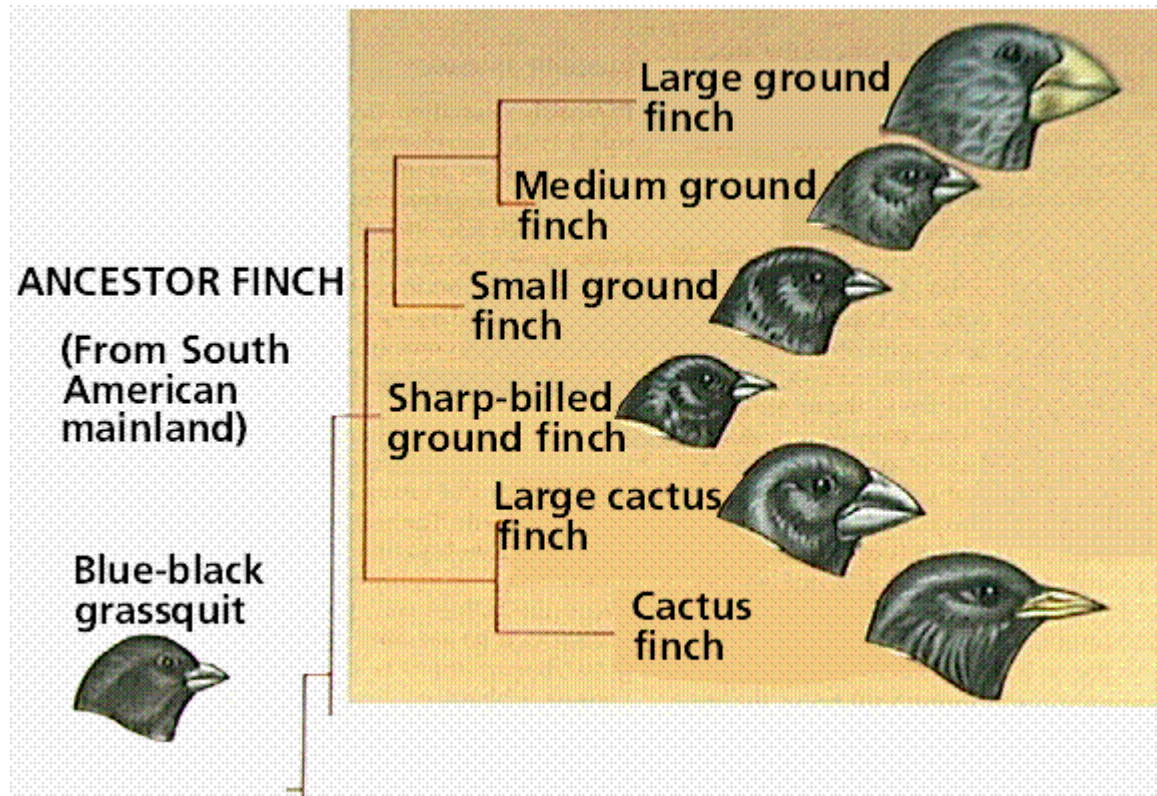
What is diversity?

- Life forms on Earth
 - Genetic
 - Species
 - Ecosystem

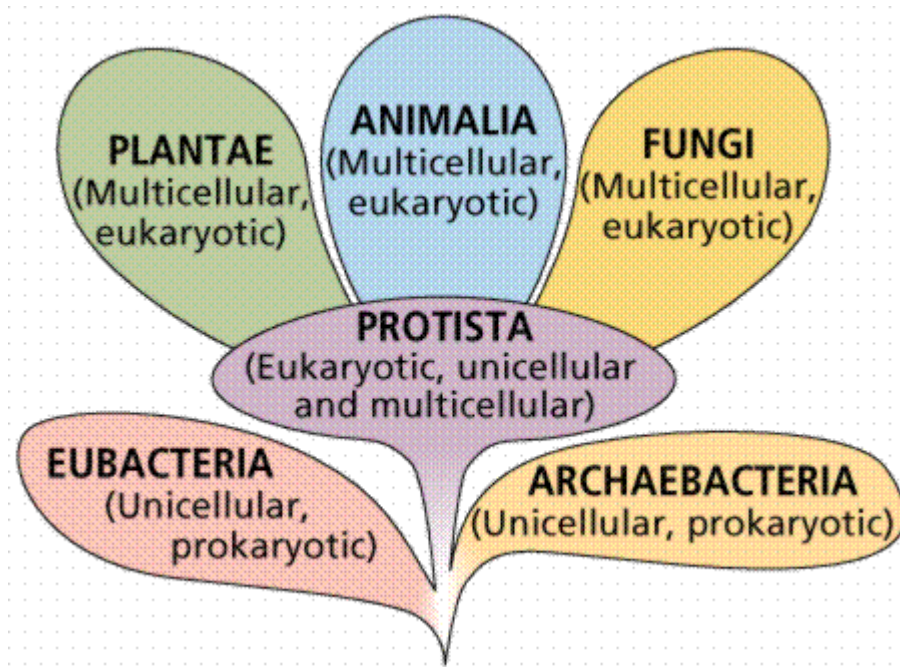
Characteristics of Life

- Organization
- Homeostasis
- Adaptation
- Complex, ordered systems
- Reproduction and heredity
- Growth and development
- Open systems: energy acquisition and release
- Interactions with environment

Evolution



Systematics



Ecology



Bio 213, Spring 2004

Questionnaire

1. Why are you taking this **course**?
 - a) It is a requirement in my major
 - b) It is optional and wanted to learn more about the subject
2. What amount of **work** are you expecting from this course?
 - a) A lot
 - b) Medium
 - c) Some
3. Are you **excited** about taking this course?
 - a) A lot
 - b) Medium
 - c) Some
 - d) Not really
4. Do you think taking this course will be of use in **furthering** your chosen area of professional/academic studies?
 - a) A lot
 - b) Medium
 - c) Some
 - d) Not really

5. Which final **grade** are you planning to get in this course?
- a) A
 - b) B
 - c) C
 - d) D
6. Coming to this course, what did you know about **diversity**? Give examples.
7. Coming to this course what did you know about **ecology**? Give examples.