

# BSPM102: Insects, Science and Society

Fall 2011 Semester

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**Office hours:** Every day after class. If I am not in my office check E-202 (top floor, East Wing). If you need to see me outside of office hours feel free stop by my office at your convenience or make an appointment and I will do my best to make myself available.

**Teaching Assistant: Paul Tanger**

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**Text:** A packet containing handouts/outlines is **REQUIRED** and available at the Bookstore in the Lory Student Center or at CopyRite (both located in the lower level of the Lory Student Center). **These are outlines of topics expected to be covered but are not complete. Attendance at lecture will be essential to know material for this course. Exams are based on material covered in lectures.**

Three recommended books that are heavily used in preparation and reference for this course are listed below. Review of these books can greatly improve your understanding of much of the material. **Multiple copies of the following books are kept on Reserve in the Library:**

*Life on a Little Known Planet.* H.E. Evans. 1993. Lyons and Burford, Pub., New York, NY.

Probably the best introduction to the world of living insects available. Full of well-written, fascinating stories of common insects and a healthy dose of philosophy.

*The Bugs in the System: Insects and Their Impact on Human Affairs.* M. Berenbaum. 1995. Helix Books; Addison-Wesley Publishing Co.

Packed with interesting information on a wide variety of topics related to insects: how they develop, their importance in agriculture, historical events involving insects - a bit of everything. Written well and very entertaining.

*The Insects: An Outline of Entomology.* P.J. Gullan and P.S. Cranston. 2000. Chapman & Hall. New York.

Arguably the best textbook for an introductory entomology course

**The Insect Information Website** can be accessed at:

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/bspm/extension%20and%20outreach/insect%20information.html>

This course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy {Section 1.6} of the Colorado State University General Catalog and the Student Conduct Code.

- Please refer to the course cheating and plagiarism policy found on the RamCT homepage.
- Student Conduct Code: <http://www.conflictresolution.colostate.edu/conduct-code.aspx#conduct>
- Colorado State University General Catalog: <http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/>

## Classroom Etiquette

- Please turn off your cell phone during class.
- Please be quiet while in class. It can be difficult to hear in a large classroom and talking is rude and very disruptive to other students who are trying to listen.
- Please do not read newspapers, text message, play computer games, or listen to music during class.
- Students who disrupt the class will be asked to leave and, if necessary, will be reported to their advisor.

## Exams and Projects

- Exam Dates are subject to change if unusual circumstances occur. Changes, if they occur, will be announced in class and through RamCT.

Exam 1: September 16, Friday  
Exam 2: October 12, Wednesday  
Exam 3: November 4, Friday  
Final: December 15, Thursday 2:00–4:00 PM. C101 Plant Sciences  
*\*\*The Final will only cover the last ¼ of lectures for the class.*

### **\*\*Please note Special Requirements on Exam Days:**

- Scantron sheets must be filled out in pencil. Please make sure to bring a few pencils with you to class.
  - Chairs in the back row are off-limits on exam days
  - Picture ID is required to take exams
- **Exam Policy**

Everyone takes the exams on the same day. Exceptions are limited.

- *For athletes and others with schedule conflicts with exams; **prior arrangements must be made*** Exams are sent on the road as per University guidelines for traveling athletes. Make prior arrangements with **Matt Camper**.
- **Students who use alternative testing at RDS** can contact **Matt Camper** prior to the exam to make arrangements and sign applicable paperwork.
- Students that miss an exam due to illness, family emergencies, or other **University approved excuse** may be able to make up the exam by special arrangement. **Arrangements must be made within one week of missed exam (NO EXCEPTIONS!).** **Matt Camper** is the contact person for situations associated with such emergencies.

## RamCT (<https://ramct.colostate.edu>)

- The course homepage is on RamCT and contains all of the information for outside projects, exam review sheets, and student grades. It is frequently updated with new links and should be checked on a regular basis.
- Each student is responsible for making sure they are able to access RamCT and understand how and where material is located within the homepage. If you have problems contact **Matt Camper** or check <http://help.ramct.colostate.edu> ASAP.
- Class announcements will be made on the homepage, generally in text boxes at the very top of the opening page. RamCT email may also be used to send out important announcements.
- Students are responsible for monitoring their quiz, exam, and project grades on RamCT. If they feel there may be a discrepancy with their grade they have **1 week** from the *date the quiz or exam was given* to discuss the issue with **Matt**.

## Grading:

Grades will be based on a total of 600 points.

**A** 541-600

**B** 481-540

**C** 421-480

**D** 361-420

**F** 360 points or below

\*\*Grades are strictly point based (e.g., one needs over a 90% for an A, 80% for a B, etc...). No grades will be curved.

**+ and - grades.** Grades above but within 10 points of the break are given a - grade (e.g., 490 points would be a B-). Grades ranging among ten points of the highest level within a grade will get a + grade (e.g., 531 points would be a B+).

## Your grade will be based on the following to total 600 points:

### 400 points - 4 written tests (100 points apiece)

- The tests are primarily Scantron oriented and in a multiple-choice format. We will provide Scantron sheets and any scratch paper necessary.

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** Format may be changed to include unannounced essay questions at the discretion of the instructor. These will be added if continual disruption during class time is observed (i.e. talking, ringing cell phones, text messaging, people listening to music, newspapers being read, computer games being played). Essay questions will be taken from in class discussion, will not be covered in the study guide, and will be worth a minimum of 10% of the test grade.

### 100 points - 10 Quizzes (10 points each). 12 UNANNOUNCED quizzes will be given and the two lowest scores will be dropped.

- Students with a **pre-approved university excuse** will have **one week** to make up missed quizzes.
- Quizzes will cover material given in previous lectures and are designed to help review key points and prepare for exams.
- Quizzes *will not be announced* and may be given at any time during the period. Scores will be posted on RamCT for you to check.

**100 points - Arthropod Related Projects**

- 100 points of your grade will be based on some combination of the projects listed below. They are due **as one packet on or by November 30**.
- \*\*There will be an early turn in date (**November 14**). Projects received on or before this day will be graded and students will have until November 30 to make up any missing points.
- Projects turned in late will be accepted at *the discretion of the instructor* and may be worth only 50% of the original points.
- The projects are an integral part of your grade - **THEY ARE NOT EXTRA CREDIT**.
- All projects will be returned on the day of the final exam. With permission, some will be used as examples for future classes. Credit to the author/artist will be given.
- You are allowed to watch movies, visit places, etc. in groups, but reviews/critiques must be written and turned in separately. **Identical reviews will receive no credit.**

**SafeAssign Instructions:** In addition to the hard copy of your project you will need to upload a copy to SafeAssign (found on your RamCT homepage). You will receive a 0 for your project if it has not been uploaded to SafeAssign by the final turn-in date (May not be applicable to all projects). See Matt if you have questions.

**NOTE:** *You will need to upload your entire project to SafeAssign as a single file. The system will not allow you to upload multiple files.*

**Project Format (points deducted for not following these guidelines):**

**Each Project Should Include:**

- title page.
- table of contents (may be on title page) that lists what projects you included AND how many points you should receive for each project.
- reference page for all sources that you use.
- Signed honor pledge (you can download/print one from the RamCT homepage).
- Your project should be contained in *one folder* (or stapled) and turned in as a *single packet*
  - please do not put individual sheets in plastic covers
- Project grading criteria includes *content, grammar, spelling, word structure/choice, adherence to directions*.
- Only the first 100 points will be graded. **No credit** for extra work done.

Summaries, reviews, and critiques should be in **paragraph** form

- Please do not use lists or bullets (you will lose points)!

1 page summary formatting:

- **double-space and use 12 pt. font with 1 inch margins**
- **have at least 22 lines of text (1 FULL PAGE)**. Points will be deducted for essays that are less than 22 lines.

## Project List

- From the following list, you may pick any of the projects you wish, to total ***no more than 100 points***.
- Variations on projects are welcome however; they must be discussed AND cleared with Matt Camper prior to submission.
- Please see **Matt Camper** if you have questions about the projects.

**\*\*Limits apply to how many of each can be submitted and are listed below\*\***

### 1) Visit the Butterfly Pavilion

- The Butterfly Pavilion is located at 6252 West 104<sup>th</sup> in Westminster and is open every day except Monday.
- Current admission price is \$8.50 (tell them you are in this class for a discount!)
- Write a one-page summary of what you saw there. *Receipt must be attached.*
- Visit must take place during the current semester.
- **20 points possible**

### 2) Volunteer at the Butterfly Pavilion

- limited opportunities to volunteer are available each semester. See Matt for details. Project points will vary by opportunity.

### 3) Visit the Swetsville Zoo

- The Swetsville Zoo is located at the SE corner of the I-25/Harmony intersection.
- Write a one-page critique on the anatomical correctness of the features of at least **4** sculptures that involve Arthropods.
- Visit must take place during the current semester.
- **20 points possible** (Maximum credit given for 4 sculptures)
- 5 points for each sculpture critiqued.

### 4) Visit the May Museum of Natural History

- The May Museum is located along Highway 115 running between Colorado Springs and Canon City.
- \*\*This Museum usually closes for the season October 1 (and re-opens its doors on May 1) but they will open for groups of 10 or more by appointment. Phone (719) 576-0450.
- Write a one-page summary of what you saw there.
- Visit must take place during the current semester.
- **25 points possible**

### 5) Attend Entomology-related Seminars and/or meetings of the Northern Colorado Beekeepers Association (NCBA)

- Throughout the semester a variety of speakers will be giving seminars on issues related to insects.
- Notice of appropriate seminars will be given in class.
- Write a one-page summary of the seminar.
- **60 points possible** (up to 3 seminars)
- Each summary is worth 20 points.

**-NCBA Meetings announced at:** <http://www.fortnet.org/NCBA/>

## 6) Gillette Entomology Club Activities

- Throughout the semester a variety of activities will take place with issues related to insects through the student club.
- Notice of appropriate activities will be given in class.
- Write a one-page summary of the activity you participated in.
- **60 points possible** (up to 3 activities)
- Each summary is worth 20 points.

## 7) Arthropod Related Movie/Television/Video Game/Book Reviews

- Write a one-page critique of a movie, television show, video game or book that has an insect related theme (Write in paragraphs please. No bulleted lists).
- Each summary must contain a short summary (3-4 sentences) of the movie AND a minimum of 5 observations of correct/incorrect entomological features/references (fill in the rest of the page with these observations)
- **40 points possible** (Maximum of 2 reviews)
- Each review is worth 20 points, 4 points for each observation.
- **\*\*NOTE\*\***: Reviews for "A Bug's Life" will NOT be accepted for this project

**\*\*Special bonus\*\***: 5 point bonus for reviewing movies that were released before you were born! Reviews that meet the criteria for this bonus will be worth 25 points toward the final 100 point goal. You must specify on the top of your review that the movie was made before you were born to receive credit! **Note: this is not extra credit.**

## 8) Insect Web Site Reviews

- Write a ½ page (at least 11 full lines of text) review on an insect related web site.
- Include the web address in your review.
- Each review should be from a different site, not a section within a single site.
- **20 points total** (maximum of 4 web site reviews)
- Each review is worth 5 points.

## 9) Insects in the News and Popular Culture

- Turn in examples of insects being mentioned in news articles, featured in cartoons, found in advertising, mentioned in a song, etc...
- Write a ½ page (at least 11 full lines of text) for each example that explains how the arthropod is portrayed (correct/incorrect physical features, correct/incorrect information, from a trustworthy source, etc.).
- **20 points total** (maximum of 4 examples)
- Each example is worth 5 points
- **\*\*Notes\*\*** - *Do not use these if you are also using them for a journal.*  
- *Garfield comics will not be accepted for credit!!*

## 10) Poetry

- Write original insect poems/haiku/song lyrics.
- 2 pts for each haiku, 5 pts for a short poem (quarter page), 10 pts for a half page, 20 pts for a full page or more.
- Maximum of **20 pts** total

### 11) Original Insect Comics (Both single pane or strips OK)

- To receive full credit, cartoon *must* include humor and illustrate some correct feature involving insect behavior or physical features.
- \*\*Plain drawings of real insects will **NOT** be accepted.
- **30 points total** (maximum of 3 comics)
- Each comic is worth 10 points.
- These comics need to be completely original (i.e. not a redo of some published cartoon).

### 12) Keep a Journal of any Insect-related Issues/Encounters/Thoughts throughout the Semester

- This should be made of news articles and your thoughts related to insects that you have noted during the semester (outside of class) and any personal observations of insect activity.
- **60 points possible**
- Each entry is worth 2 points.
- A minimum of 30 entries (4-5 sentences ea.) are expected to receive full credit.
- \*\*Each entry must be written in a complete sentence to receive full credit

### 13) Maintain and Report on an Insect/Arthropod "Pet" You Watch over during the Semester

- Report should include a minimum of 20 observations written in bulleted format.
- **40 points possible**
- Each entry is worth 2 points.
- A minimum of 20 entries (4-5 sentences ea.) are expected to receive full credit.
- Each entry must be written in a complete sentence to receive full credit
- \*\*Some arthropods are available to borrow. However, most arthropods that you find (check first with Matt) will be acceptable for the project.

### 14) Arthropods or Examples of Arthropod Injury

- Bring in up to 10 arthropods or examples of arthropod injury.
- **20 points total**, each arthropod or arthropod injury turned in is worth 2 points.
- Each sample must be of a different species.
- *Information on when and where the insects were collected must be provided to receive credit.*
- \*\*Pet shop feeder insects (i.e. crickets, mealworms) will NOT be accepted for credit.
- \*\*Annelids (i.e. earthworms or nightcrawlers), slugs and other non-arthropods of any kind will NOT be accepted for credit.

### 15) Crossword Puzzles

- Minimum of 25 clues. You may add more clues, but only **25 points possible**.

### 16) Special Projects - Your area to shine!

- We want to see your talents!
- Group projects are encouraged
- Points negotiable **up to 100 points** depending on project.
- Project must be discussed AND cleared with Matt Camper prior to submission.

**NOTE:** Word searches will NOT be accepted for project points

### An Example of How Grading Might Work:

Exam One - **66/100**  
Exam Two - **80/100**  
Exam Three - **78/100**  
Exam Four - **90/100**  
Quiz total - **74/100 (you take 12 quizzes and we drop the lowest two!)**

For projects you:

- Draw an original insect cartoon for **10** points.
- Review a movie involving insects for **20** points.
- Compose a ½ page poem about your favorite arthropod for **10** points.
- Visit the Butterfly Pavilion and make notes on what is there, **20** points.
- Turn in 3 examples of insects in the news or pop culture, **15** points.
- Review 3 insect related websites for **15** points.
- Turn in 5 different arthropods for **10** points.
- **Total of 100** points.

Your grade for the semester would thus be based on:

Test grades	<b>314 points (66+80+78+90)</b>
Project activities	<b>100 points</b>
Quiz score	<b>74 points</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>488 points (a B-)</b>

**\*\*\*\*\*NO EXTRA CREDIT IS OFFERED FOR THIS COURSE\*\*\*\*\***

### BSPM102 Final Grade Calculator

- (A) 551-600 points
- (A-) 541-550 points
- (B+) 531-540 points
- (B) 491-530 points
- (B-) 481-490 points
- (C+) 471-480 points
- (C) 421-470 points
- (D) 361-420 points
- (F) 0-360 points

**NOTE:** We give you many chances to succeed in this class. We will not be curving grades on any exam. We will not change your final grade unless there has been a grading mistake on your project, quizzes, or exams. You must see Matt Camper during the week of finals (or before) if you believe there has been a grading mistake.