MBF 586 Environmental Biology of Fishes

This course is based lectures as well as student presentations and utilizes mainly primary literature as teaching resources. At least two guest lecturers are planned for the spring 2010 rendition of MBF586.

The course lectures will cover the main physiological functions of fish from the molecular, cellular level though integrative whole animal aspects. Main topics to be covered are nitrogenous waste excretion, respiration (air and water), exercise and energy utilization, salt and water balance, acid-base balance, adaptation to extreme temperatures, adaptation to extreme pH, adaptation to excavation and finally the impact of feeding on many of the above topics.

Students are required to give two presentations each of approximately 20-30 minutes and to moderate the ensuing discussion of the topic. The subject of these presentations is the choice of the students and should be based on selected peer-reviewed papers. Presentations on the student’s research topic as it relates to this course are welcomed.

Marks will be based on two written assay tests and classroom participation as well as the student presentations. Each test and student presentation will contribute 20% to the overall mark with classroom participation contributing 20%.