Ecology 8000, Fall 2016

August 16, 2016
Goals for the course

- Provide intellectual cohesion and familiarity with a range of concepts
- Promote broad thinking outside of one’s own subdiscipline; illustrate that thinking broadly often leads to better science
- Getting comfortable outside one’s comfort zone
- Establish a common vocabulary and base of concepts
- Facilitate active engagement
- How to discern the cutting edge of a discipline
- Build the strength/sense of the cohort
Course overview

- Introduction: Day 1
- 4 Modules
- Transition days between modules
- Field trip to Coweeta
- Final wrap up day

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- Gray - Non-module days
- Light Green - denotes the day before the field trip
- Each color block is a module
Introduction

Important aspects of graduate school:

▶ Your peers are resources
▶ You are a member of the community
▶ Empowerment
▶ Discussions and conversations are where the magic happens

What is ecology?

What makes a good scientist?
Introduction

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  - Your peers are resources
  - You are a member of the community
  - Empowerment
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- What is ecology?

- What makes a good scientist?
Introduction

- Important aspects of graduate school:
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- What is ecology?

- What makes a good scientist?
Field trip

- Leave Friday at $\approx 2$ pm
- Friday afternoon: quick survey to familiarize with CWT, craft a study proposal and present to the group Friday night
- Stay in CWT dorms (we will cook meals in the kitchens together - everyone will contribute $\approx$ $20$ for food)
- Saturday: collect data
- Sunday AM: analyze data
- Sunday PM: presentations
- Return Sunday night around 8 pm
Review paper

- TREE format review/synthesis paper
- Will be reviewed by a faculty member, a senior graduate student and someone in the class
- Outlines can be briefly discussed in class 9/8
- Outline due 9/13 at the beginning of class
- First draft due 10/6 at the beginning of class
- First submission due 11/1 at the beginning of class
- Peer reviews returned by 11/14 at 5 pm
- Final submission that incorporates reviewers’ comments along with cover letter due 12/5 at 5 pm