**Seminar Evolutionary Biology: Speciation**

**Daniel R. Matute, Ph.D.**

**BIOL 659-001**

**Mo 09:00-11:00PM Genome Sciences Bldg - Rm 2101**

**Office hours: TBD**

**Course Goals:** The aim of the course is to provide an overview of outstanding questions in speciation. The course will have a heavy emphasis or writing scientific pieces.

**Attendance Policy**: Attendance is not mandatory. However, more than two absences will lead to an incomplete

**SYLLABUS:** The course will be largely based on the chapters of the book ‘Speciation’ by J.A. Coyne and H.A. Orr (2004).

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| **1** | **January 13** | **Appendix A**  |
| **2** | **January 20** | Holiday |
| **3** | **January 27** | Chapter 1 |
| **4** | **February 3** | Chapter 2 |
| **5** | **February 10** | Chapter 3 |
| **6** | **February 17** | Chapter 4 |
| **7** | **February 24** | Chapter 5 |
| **8** | **March 3** | Chapter 6 |
| **9** | **March 9** | **BREAK** |
| **10** | **March 16** | Chapter 7 |
| **11** | **March 23** | Chapter 8 |
| **12** | **March 30** | Chapter 9 |
| **13** | **April 6** | Chapter 10 |
| **14** | **April 13** | Chapter 11 |
| **15** | **April 20** | Chapter 12 |

**Grading**

Presentation Review 25%

Paper 75%

**PLAGIARISM**

At UNC, plagiarism is "the deliberate or reckless representation of another's words, thoughts, or ideas as one's own without attribution in connection with submission of academic work, whether graded or otherwise." Students should guard against plagiarism in their own work and that of their group colleagues. Instances of plagiarism or other forms of cheating may result in serious grade deductions and possibly failing the class.

The UNC honor code is here:<http://honor.unc.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=106:honorsyllabus&catid=43:facultycontent&Itemid=148>

Additionally, please include and sign the following Honor Pledge on each assignment or test:

“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this assignment.” All other aspects of the UNC Honor Code will be enforced.

**GRADES**

The course will follow a discussion style in which each of us will lead between one and two discussions per week. The book is from 2004 and there has been a fair amount of development on the topic in the last 15 years. I expect you to review the status of the field for whatever chapter you choose and present the material in a synthetic way. This will be 25% of your grade. The other 75% will be a concise (2.5k-5K words) paper on the topic you presented. This paper can be written in a synthesis form (think Trends in Ecology and Evolution; https://www.cell.com/trends/ecology-evolution/home), or as an outstanding question (think Opinion/Hypothesis in mBio: <https://mbio.asm.org/content/organization-and-format>).  I expect that all the pieces written in the course to be published. At the end of the semester, you must have a full draft that must be close to be submitted as a preprint. If the paper is submitted (or close), you get an A. If not, you get an incomplete until you submit it.

**Grade Complaints**: Re-grade requests are allowed. Such requests must be made in within one week of receiving a grade and they must be made in written form.

**TECHNOLOGY USE**

* Use of computers is allowed but only for taking notes. The instructor has the right to end any session if ANY of the students is found using facebook, twitter, youtube or any other social media. In such a case, the instructor will assume that the topics to be covered that day were covered.
* Recording and distributions of lectures is prohibited. Use of cell phones and similar devices is prohibited.