

BIOE 149 Disease Ecology

Instructor: Dr. Marm Kilpatrick, Associate Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

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Office Hours: COH 249; Tu 2-3pm, Th 2-3pm

Lecture: CBB 110 M,W 10-11:35am

Discussions: All in CBB 203

M 8:30am-9:35am

M 12-1:05pm

W 1:25-2:30pm

Course Description: This is a class on problem solving and critical thinking focusing on problems related to the ecological and evolutionary processes that drive the transmission of pathogens between hosts; the impact of disease on host populations; and what causes the emergence of an infectious disease. The course content includes a theoretical framework, hands-on experience with field techniques, and a discussion of wildlife and human diseases including Zika, Ebola, influenza (swine flu, bird flu), malaria, West Nile virus, Lyme disease, HIV, Chikungunya, tuberculosis, chytridiomycosis, and many others.

Course Readings: There is no book. See schedule of readings below.

Attendance: Attendance at lectures and discussion is mandatory and attendance will be taken. If you miss a class you need to find a fellow student who will share their notes.

Daily Assignments: There are short assignments on the reading for each day. There will be questions on the two papers in columns I and II (see below), with questions on papers in column II providing extra credit.

Grades: Daily assignments 15%; Poster Project 15%; Midterm 25%; Discussion Activities: 15% Final exam: 30%.

Weekly Schedule. Everyone should read the papers in column I; the papers in column II are for extra credit. Papers in column III are additional readings for those especially interested in the topic.

Wk	Day	Date	Topic	Readings		
				I	II	III
1	Mon	Apr 2	What is disease ecology, and what is it good for?	1	2	3
1	Wed	Apr 4	Foundations of disease ecology: SIR models, R_0 , Frequency and density dependent transmission, N_{th}	4	5	6,7
2	Mon	Apr 9	Directly transmitted human pathogens	8	9	10
2	Wed	Apr 11	Disease impacts on populations and ecosystems	11	12	13
3	Mon	Apr 16	Livestock, wildlife, zoonotic pathogens	14	15	
3	Wed	Apr 18	Disease control: Vaccination, Behavioral changes, culling	16	17	18
4	Mon	Apr 23	Problem solving: Controlling influenza	16,19		
4	Wed	Apr 25	Problem solving: Herpes dynamics	20	22	
5	Mon	Apr 30	Problem solving: Evolution of virulence	23	24	25-27
5	Wed	May 2	Mid-term			
6	Mon	May 7	Case Study: White nose syndrome			
6	Wed	May 9	Vector borne disease ecology I.	30	31	
7	Mon	May 14	Vector borne disease ecology II.	32	33	
7	Wed	May 16	Seasonality, climate change and transmission dynamics	34	35	36
8	Mon	May 21	Antibiotic resistance	37	38	39
8	Wed	May 23	Multi-host pathogens, biodiversity and disease: the "dilution effect"	40	41	42
9	Mon	May 28	Holiday			
9	Wed	May 30	ON-CAMPUS – Outside Communications Building near Baskin circle! Plant pathogens w Greg Gilbert	45	46	47
10	Mon	Jun 4	Disease and conservation	48	49	
10	Wed	Jun 6	Poster session			
11	Thu	May 14	Final Exam 12-3pm			

Readings

- 1 Kilpatrick, A. M. and Altizer, S., Disease Ecology. *Nature Education Knowledge* 1 (11), 13 (2010). [Link to Article](#)
- 2 Smith, K. F., Dobson, A. P., McKenzie, F. E., Real, L. A., Smith, D. L., and Wilson, M. L., Ecological theory to enhance infectious disease control and public health policy *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 3 (1), 29 (2005). [PDF](#)
- 3 Plowright, R. K., Sokolow, S. H., Gorman, M. E., Daszak, P., and Foley, J. E., Causal inference in disease ecology: investigating ecological drivers of disease emergence *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 6 (8), 420 (2008). [PDF](#)
- 4 Anderson, R. M. and May, R. M., A framework for discussing the population biology of infectious diseases in *Infectious diseases of humans. Dynamics and control.* (Oxford University Press, London, 1991), pp. 13. [PDF](#)
- 5 Lloyd-Smith, J. O., Cross, P. C., Briggs, C. J., Daugherty, M., Getz, W. M., Latta, J., Sanchez, M. S., Smith, A. B., and Swei, A., Should we expect population thresholds for wildlife disease? *Trends in Ecology & Evolution* 20 (9), 511 (2005). [PDF](#)

- 6 Anderson, R. M. and May, R. M., Population biology of infectious diseases I *Nature* 280 (5721), 361 (1979). [PDF](#)
- 7 May, R. M. and Anderson, R. M., Population Biology of Infectious-Diseases II *Nature* 280 (5722), 455 (1979). [PDF](#)
- 8 Woolhouse, M. E. J., Dye, C., Etard, J. F., Smith, T., Charlwood, J. D., Garnett, G. P., Hagan, P., Hii, J. L. K., Ndhlovu, P. D., Quinnell, R. J., Watts, C. H., Chandiwana, S. K., and Anderson, R. M., Heterogeneities in the transmission of infectious agents: Implications for the design of control programs *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 94 (1), 338 (1997). [PDF](#)
9. Aylward B, Barboza P, Bawo L, et al. Ebola Virus Disease in West Africa - The First 9 Months of the Epidemic and Forward Projections. *N Engl J Med* 2014; 371(16): 1481-95. [PDF](#)
- 10 Ferguson, N. M., Cummings, D. A. T., Fraser, C., Cajka, J. C., Cooley, P. C., and Burke, D. S., Strategies for mitigating an influenza pandemic *Nature* 442 (7101), 448 (2006). [PDF](#)
- 11 Hudson, P. J., Dobson, A. P., and Newborn, D., Prevention of population cycles by parasite removal *Science* 282 (5397), 2256 (1998). [PDF](#)
- 12 Holdo, R. M., Sinclair, A. R. E., Dobson, A. P., Metzger, K. L., Bolker, B. M., Ritchie, M. E., and Holt, R. D., A Disease-Mediated Trophic Cascade in the Serengeti and its Implications for Ecosystem C *Plos Biology* 7 (9), e1000210 (2009). [PDF](#)
- 13 LaDeau, S. L., Kilpatrick, A. M., and Marra, P. P., West Nile virus emergence and large-scale declines of North American bird populations *Nature* 447 (7145), 710 (2007). [PDF](#)
- 14 Hochachka WM, Dhondt AA. Density-dependent decline of host abundance resulting from a new infectious disease. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2000; 97(10): 5303-6. [PDF](#)
- 15 Dobson, A. and Meagher, M., The population dynamics of brucellosis in the Yellowstone National Park *Ecology* 77 (4), 1026 (1996). [PDF](#)
- 16 Fraser, C., Riley, S., Anderson, R. M., and Ferguson, N. M., Factors that make an infectious disease outbreak controllable *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 101 (16), 6146 (2004). [PDF](#)
- 17 Donnelly, C. A., Woodroffe, R., Cox, D. R., Bourne, J., Gettinby, G., Le Fevre, A. M., McInerney, J. P., and Morrison, W. I., Impact of localized badger culling on tuberculosis incidence in British cattle *Nature* 426 (6968), 834 (2003). [PDF](#)
- 18 Galvani, A. P., Reluga, T. C., and Chapman, G. B., Long-standing influenza vaccination policy is in accord with individual self-interest but not with the utilitarian optimum *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 104 (13), 5692 (2007). [PDF](#)
- 19 Harris, J. B., R. C. LaRocque, F. Qadri, E. T. Ryan, and S. B. Calderwood. 2012. Cholera. *Lancet* 379:2466-2476. [PDF](#)
- 20 [Cholera Model Homework assignment](#)
- 21 Graham, A. L., Ecological rules governing helminth-microparasite coinfection *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 105 (2), 566 (2008). [PDF](#)
- 22 Mina, M. J., C. J. E. Metcalf, R. L. de Swart, A. Osterhaus, and B. T. Grenfell. 2015. Long-term measles-induced immunomodulation increases overall childhood infectious disease mortality. *Science* 348:694-699. [PDF](#)
- 23 [Myxoma virus evolution of virulence homework](#)

- 24 Grenfell, B. T., Pybus, O. G., Gog, J. R., Wood, J. L. N., Daly, J. M., Mumford, J. A., and Holmes, E. C., Unifying the epidemiological and evolutionary dynamics of pathogens *Science* 303(5656), 327 (2004). [PDF](#)
- 25 Woolhouse, M. E. J., Webster, J. P., Domingo, E., Charlesworth, B., and Levin, B. R., Biological and biomedical implications of the co-evolution of pathogens and their hosts *Nature Genetics* 32 (4), 569 (2002). [PDF](#)
- 26 Mackinnon, M. J., Gandon, S., and Read, A. F., Virulence evolution in response to vaccination: The case of malaria *Vaccine* 26, C42 (2008). [PDF](#)
- 27 Ewald, P. W., *Evolution of infectious disease*. (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1994).
- 28 Metcalf, C. J. E., M. Ferrari, A. L. Graham, and B. T. Grenfell. 2015. Understanding Herd Immunity. *Trends in Immunology* 36:753-755. [PDF](#)
- 30 Wonham, M. J., de-Camino-Beck, T., and Lewis, M. A., An epidemiological model for West Nile virus: invasion analysis and control applications *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London Series B-Biological Sciences* 271 (1538), 501 (2004). [PDF](#)
31. Sachs, J. and Malaney, P., The economic and social burden of malaria *Nature* 415 (6872), 680 (2002). [PDF](#)
- 32 Ostfeld, R. S., Canham, C. D., Oggenfuss, K., Winchcombe, R. J., and Keesing, F., Climate, deer, rodents, and acorns as determinants of variation in Lyme-disease risk *Plos Biology* 4 (6), 1058 (2006). [PDF](#)
33. Alonso PL, Brown G, Arevalo-Herrera M, et al. A Research Agenda to Underpin Malaria Eradication. *PLoS Med* 2011; 8(1) e1000400. [PDF](#)
34. Mordecai EA, Paaijmans KP, Johnson LR, et al. Optimal temperature for malaria transmission is dramatically lower than previously predicted. *Ecol Lett* 2013; 16(1): 22-30. [PDF](#)
35. Gething, P. W., D. L. Smith, A. P. Patil, A. J. Tatem, R. W. Snow, and S. I. Hay. 2010. Climate change and the global malaria recession. *Nature* 465:342-346. [PDF](#)
36. Rohr, J. R., Raffel, T. R., Romansic, J. M., McCallum, H., and Hudson, P. J., Evaluating the links between climate, disease spread, and amphibian declines *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 105 (45), 17436 (2008). [PDF](#)
37. Levy SB, Marshall B. Antibacterial resistance worldwide: causes, challenges and responses. *Nat Med* 2004; 10(12): S122-S9. [PDF](#)
38. Read AF, Day T, Huijben S. The evolution of drug resistance and the curious orthodoxy of aggressive chemotherapy. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2011; 108: 10871-7. [PDF](#)
39. Read AF, Lynch PA, Thomas MB. How to Make Evolution-Proof Insecticides for Malaria Control. *PLoS Biol* 2009; 7(4): e1000058. [PDF](#)
40. Keesing F, Holt RD, Ostfeld RS. Effects of species diversity on disease risk. *Ecol Lett* 2006; 9(4): 485-98. [PDF](#)
41. Kilpatrick, A. M., D. J. Salkeld, G. Titcomb, and M. B. Hahn. 2017. Conservation of biodiversity as a strategy for improving human health and well-being. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B-Biological Sciences* 372:20160131. [PDF](#)
42. Civitello, D. J., J. Cohen, H. Fatima, N. T. Halstead, J. Liriano, T. A. McMahon, C. N. Ortega, E. L. Sauer, T. Sehgal, S. Young, and J. R. Rohr. 2015. Biodiversity inhibits parasites: Broad evidence for the dilution effect. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 112:8667-8671. [PDF](#)
43. Wolfe ND, Dunavan CP, Diamond J. Origins of major human infectious diseases. *Nature* 2007; 447(7142): 279-83. [PDF](#)

44. Faria NR, Rambaut A, Suchard MA, et al. The early spread and epidemic ignition of HIV-1 in human populations. *Science* 2014; **346**(6205): 56-61. [PDF](#)
45. Parker IM, Saunders M, Bontrager M, et al. Phylogenetic structure and host abundance drive disease pressure in communities. *Nature* 2015; **520**(7548): 542-4 [PDF](#)
46. Gilbert GS, Webb CO. Phylogenetic signal in plant pathogen-host range. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2007; 104(12): 4979-83. [PDF](#)
47. Parker IM, Gilbert GS. The evolutionary ecology of novel plant-pathogen interactions. *Annu Rev Ecol Evol Syst* 2004; **35**: 675-700. [PDF](#)
48. Langwig, K. E., J. Voyles, M. Q. Wilber, W. F. Frick, K. A. Murray, B. M. Bolker, J. P. Collins, T. L. Cheng, M. C. Fisher, J. R. Hoyt, D. L. Lindner, H. I. McCallum, R. Puschendorf, E. B. Rosenblum, M. Toothman, C. K. R. Willis, C. J. Briggs, and A. M. Kilpatrick. 2015. Context dependent conservation responses to emerging wildlife diseases. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 13:195–202. [PDF](#)
49. McCallum H. Disease and the dynamics of extinction. *Philos Trans R Soc B-Biol Sci* 2012; **367**(1604): 2828-39. [PDF](#)