Syllabus for IB 546: Non-parametric Statistics for Biologists

**Online Course Information**

**Instructor:**
Prof. Mark E. Hauber, Dept. of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior, School of Integrative Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Email: mhauber@illinois.edu
Office Hours: Friday 8-9AM; 469 Morrill Hall or by appointment.

**Description:** This is a basic course on non-parametric statistics to understand the contexts, methods, and uses of using non-parametric tests in biological research.
Credit: 1 hour.
Pass/Fail.

**Course Structure:** A weekly meeting of 1 hr on Fridays, 10-10.50AM at 515 Morrill Hall.

**Learning outcomes** include identifying the needs and means for non-parametric statistics; using code in R to conduct non-parametric tests and evaluate published literature on the use of such tests in the biological literature.

**Course Type and Schedule:** In person, full semester.

**Course Web Site:** Materials will be posted on the course Moodle site: https://learn.illinois.edu

**Exams and Grading**

**Course Grading Philosophy**
Pass/Fail based on course participation.

**Contesting Grades**
Students who have questions regarding a grade in the course should confer directly with the instructor within one week of receiving the graded assignment. To contest a specific grade, you must submit a written statement (preferably via email) of what you believe was graded incorrectly and why the grade should be altered. No oral contesting of grades will be considered, nor will the instructor consider any contest of grades submitted after one week of posting.

Students who also believe the grade awarded is demonstrably improper by reason of capricious or arbitrary grading should confer with the Associate Director of Academic Affairs in the School of Integrative Biology. Students who are unable through such discussion to arrive at a mutually agreeable solution may file a written appeal with the Capricious Grading Committee of the School of Integrative Biology, in accordance with the Student Code. Prompt attention to these concerns is important. The appeal must be filed within six working weeks after the start of the next semester. Students may obtain the name of the committee chairperson from the school office.

For further information, refer to §3-107 of the Student Code: https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part1/3-107/

**Disabilities Statement**
If you require special accommodations, please contact Dr. Hauber via email as soon as possible. All accommodations will follow the procedures as stated in Article 1-110 of the Student Code (http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part1_1-110.html). To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or e-mail a message to disability@illinois.edu.

**Code of Civil Class Conduct:**
Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the campus Student Code: https://studentcode.illinois.edu. This class will explore numerous sensitive topics and gender-based experiences outside of what your personal experiences may be. Because of this it is important to remember to discuss these subjects with the civility and respect. Any behavior determined not to comply with the Student Code will result in dismissal from the synchronous discussion group and further infractions may result in dismissal from the course. As a reminder, the Campus Integrity Statement states: “The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign expects its faculty, staff, students and guests to conduct themselves in accordance with the community values of civility, respect, and honesty; to maintain the highest level of integrity and exercise critical judgment in all dealings, decisions and encounters; and to maintain and strengthen the public’s trust and confidence in our institution.” You will receive three warnings if your language and comments are divisive or offensive. After these warnings you will receive a 0 on assignments in which your comments are deemed inappropriate. What does it mean to be divisive or offensive? The list includes: personal attacks, false statements with no basis in fact, demeaning someone's experience, belittling language, broad generalizations and stereotyping, amongst others. If you could not find a credible source to support something you are trying to state as a scientific finding, it is likely in this category.

**Academic Integrity** is essential to maintaining a learning environment that promotes excellence. We expect that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. We adhere to the academic misconduct guidelines outlined by the Student Code of Conduct and will report any suspected academic misconduct using the FAIR system. Please see http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part4_1-402.html for additional details. If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact Dr. Hauber.

**Tentative Course Schedule:** TBD.