BIOL 520 (Field Course in Tropical Biology) Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, successful students will:

1. be able to locate the country in which they will be studying, and be familiar with the region and have some knowledge of the historical, social, and political factors affecting that country.

2. be able to compare the physical and biological factors affecting tropical biomes and ecozones with those of temperate regions, and the nature of tropical forests and savannas.

3. be able to explain the global patterns of biodiversity and hypotheses for these patterns.

4. be able to compare the level of diversity of selected taxa between Alberta and the tropical destination.

5. be able to list the different method(s) used to survey animals and plants of different types, and be proficient using some of these in the field.

6. be better able to plan and implement a research project with others, by developing an hypothesis and predictions and testing those under field conditions.

7. be better able to work effectively as part of a team, provide constructive feedback to team members and demonstrate collaborative report writing.

8. have improved oral and written communication skills.

9. be better at managing time effectively in a highly focused and less familiar learning environment