

SES Microbial Methods

Syllabus 2021

Module	Date	Topic	Instructor
1	Tue (7 Sep)	1: Introduction Lecture only	Vallino
	Thu (9 Sep)	Lab: Construct Winogradsky column. Field trip to Little Sippewisset Marsh. Wear shoes that can get wet and muddy.	
2		2: Bacterial abundance	Vallino
	Tue (14 Sep)	Lab: Prepare dilution and coliform plates. Fix samples for direct DAPI counts	
	Thu (16 Sep)	Lab: DAPI staining and counts Examine plates Problem Set 1 due: Introduction	
3		3: Bacterial production	Vallino
	Tue (21 Sep)	Lecture on bacterial production method Lab: Count dilution plates	
	Thu (23 Sep)	Lab: Measure bacterial production using C14. Problem Set 2 due: Bacterial abundance	
	Tue (28 Sep)	¹⁴ C Activity Results Scintillation counter demonstration Explain calculations.	
4	Thu (30 Sep)	4: Extracellular Enzyme Assays Lecture on extracellular enzymes and fluorometry	Vallino
	Tue (5 Oct)	Lab: Measure enzyme activities	
5		5: Microbial food webs: Flagellate and ciliate grazing on bacteria	Vallino
	Thu (7 Oct)	Lecture Problem Set 3 due: Bacterial Production	
	Tue (12 Oct)	Lab on bacterial grazing w/ fluorescent beads.	
6	Thu (14 Oct)	6: Chemolithotrophy Lecture on Winogradsky column Column Observations Problem Set 4 due: Extracellular Enzyme Assays	Vallino
	Tue (19 Oct)	Measure Hydrogen Sulfide profiles in columns	
	Thu (21 Oct)	Measure methane gradient in columns Problem Set 5 due: Microbial food webs	
7		7: Molecular Techniques	Gribble
	Tue (26 Oct)	Lab: DNA Extraction	
	Thu (28 Oct)	Lab: Electrophoresis and PCR Problem Set 6 due: Chemolithotrophy	
	Tue (2 Nov)	Lecture on Molecular methods Discuss results	
8		8: Microbial food webs: bacteria phytoplankton competition	Vallino
	Thu (4 Nov)	Lecture (short) Microcosm startup and sample	
	Fri (5 Nov)	Sample microcosm	

Sat (6 Nov) Sample microcosm
Sun (7 Nov) Sample microcosm
Mon (8 Nov) Sample microcosm
Tue (9 Nov) Sample microcosm, analyze samples
Wed (10 Nov) Analyze microcosm samples
Thu (11 Nov) Present and discuss microcosm results and calculations

Problem Set 7 due: Molecular Techniques

Problem Set 8 due: Microbial food webs: bacteria

Thu (18 Nov) ***phytoplankton competition***

Grading:

Problem Sets	95% of grade
Participation	5% of grade
Final	If problem sets are done independently, then there will not be a final exam.

All problem sets are due at the beginning of Thursday's class, as indicated by the syllabus