**COURSE: BIOL-322\* Environmental Physiology of Animals**

**TERM: 2191 (Winter 2019)**

**INSTRUCTOR: Y. Wang**

SUMMARY:

BIOL 322 is a comprehensive survey of animal physiology using a comparative perspective. The emphasis is on the interaction of the animal with its environment rather than the mechanisms of homeostatic feedback within an individual. It is a course on how the physiological adaptations of animals work within their environments, including both physical and social facets, using examples from within the Animal Kingdom (i.e. invertebrates and vertebrates). This course differs from BIOL 339 which examines the functioning of major organs and tissues rather than the interactions of an organism with the environment. It also differs from Mammalian Physiology (eg. PHGY214) courses which are focused on function as a means of understanding and mitigating malfunction (disease) in mammals, rather than physiological function as an evolutionary adaptation to an ecological niche. The emphasis of the environment in BIOL 322 leads us to consider the impacts of environmental disturbances, including contaminants, on the welfare of animals. The course assumes an introductory understanding of biological diversity (BIOL 202) and animal physiology (BIOL 339) as prerequisites and expects that students will be enrolled in the core program of a Biology medial or major.

The TA is expected to have a solid background in the study area that will allow them to evaluate a variety of possible answers to questions that may have more than one correct answer. Midterm, final exam and assignments are scheduled in advance and timely turn-around/ return of those evaluations with feedback is essential.

DUTIES:

To administer and assist in marking, assignments, midterm and final examinations, course grading and Q&A via OnQ system as required.

EVALUATION:

TAs will receive a written evaluation of their performance at the end of term. This will be provided by the Course Coordinator, or Instructor, as appropriate.

**PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

All Biology TAs are required to adhere to the University's Code of Conduct, as described in Section 12 of the Queen's Graduate Calendar, and Section 4 of the Guide to Graduate Studies in Biology. As teachers of undergraduates, TAs are expected to recognize the seriousness of all forms of Academic Dishonesty, Harassment and Discrimination and to

understand the rules governing such cases at Queen's.

**PROCEDURES FOR RESOLVING PROBLEMS BETWEEN TAs and INSTRUCTORS**

Please refer to the Collective Agreement at the following link:

<http://queensu.ca/facultyrelations/teaching-assistants-and-fellows/collective-agreement>