

# Graduate Module Outline

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**Title:** Biodiversity within managed ecosystems

**Instructor:** Nathan Boyd

**Timing (month/year module will be offered):** fall / 2011

Month is to be determined but anticipated month is October

**Course Description:**

This module is designed for graduate students that are interested in measuring biodiversity and understanding the impact of plant community structure and change on other organisms. We will focus on the importance of biodiversity, techniques to estimate biodiversity, and the ecological interactions between plant communities and other organisms (ie. mammals and insects).

**Format:**

The module will include the following:

1. Small group discussions where recent papers published in the field of ecology will be discussed and critiqued.
2. Development and discussion of proposed techniques for measuring biodiversity

**Method of Evaluation:**

Methodology Development: Submission of a proposed methodology for measuring biodiversity or ecological interactions between a plant community of interest and other organisms.

Powerpoint presentation: A 20 minute presentation on the ecological interactions between a select plant community and a mammal or insect of interest

Formal paper: Literature review of a topic previously approved by the instructor with a focus on applied ecology. The topic can be related but not directly applicable to their research focus.

**Prerequisites (list undergraduate courses required as prerequisites):**

An undergraduate course in biology or ecology