

Population Genetics and Evolution

Course outline

Fall 2017

Course No#: DIC 8024

Credits: Three (3hr per week)

Time: 09:10-12:10, Tuesday

Place: [S606, GongGuan Campus, National Taiwan Normal University \(week 1\)](#)

B204 (2F), Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica (weeks 2~18)

Organizers: Prof. Shou-Hsien Li (7734-6311)

Lecturers: Dr. John Wang

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This is a graduate level course intended for PhD students to learn the fundamentals of population genetics and evolution. The course will be primarily discussion and based on the chapter and paper reading assignments; on most days, there will be no lectures. Students are expected to complete all reading assignments ahead of each class and be prepared for critical discussion.

At the end of the course, we hope that this course will help you develop as an independent scientist. Specifically, students will:

Learn how to critically read and evaluate scientific publications

Identify interesting research questions and propose experimental tests in the form of a grant

Grading/Evaluation of students:

- 30%, weekly written homework assignments
- 30%, class participation
- 15%, midterm: written critique and evaluation of a scientific manuscript
- 25%, final: grant proposal and reading committee evaluation

We will use the following textbook:

Weeks 1-11:

Population Genetics by Matthew B. Hamilton (Wiley-Blackwell, 2009)

Weeks 12-17:

Evolution 3rd Edition by Douglas J. Futuyma (Sinauer Associates, Inc, 2013)

| DATE | WEEK | TENTATIVE TOPIC |
|--------------------------------|------|---|
| 9/12 | 1 | Class organization/Introduction/Thinking like a population geneticist- |
| 9/19 | 2 | Genotype frequencies |
| 9/26 | 3 | Genetic drift and effective population size |
| 10/3 | 4 | Genetic drift and effective population size |
| 10/10 | 5 | Adjust to holiday (National Holiday) |
| 10/17 | 6 | Population structure and gene flow |
| 10/24 | 7 | Mutation_ |
| 10/31 | 8 | Natural Selection |
| 11/7 | 9 | Natural Selection (midterm due) |
| 11/14 DATE to be decided | 10 | Mol Evolution 1 (due to retreat, we will decide date after first week) |
| 11/21 | 11 | Mol Evolution 2 |
| 11/28 | 12 | Clades/Trees |
| 12/5 | 13 | Sexual selection |
| 12/12 | 14 | Cooperation and conflict |
| 12/19 | 15 | Speciation |
| 12/26 | 16 | Evo-Devo Final exam [grant proposal] due |
| 1/2 | 17 | Coevolution |
| 1/9 | 18 | Grant "reading committee": Should grant be funded? |
| ~1/12 | | Revision of grant due |