Student comments on ESS 575, Spring 2019

1. Is there a lecture or lectures that you believe could be usefully dropped from the course? Briefly explain why.

2. Is there a lab or labs that you believe could be usefully dropped from the course? Briefly explain why.

3. Rate the balance between lectures and labs by circling one option below:

   (a) Just right

   (b) Need more time for lectures at the expense of labs

   (c) Need more time in labs at the expense of lecture

4. Was it effective to work in groups? Is there a way to improve that format?

5. Was there anything that you had hoped you would learn that was not covered in the course?

6. Was the effort to enlightenment ratio favorable? How could it be improved?

7. Do you feel capable of applying the methods covered in the course to your own work? Are you likely to do so?

8. The learning outcomes of the course are listed below. Please rate whether you feel you attained these outcomes: 1 = not at all to 4 = throughly

   (a) Understand basic principles of probability and distribution theory.

   (b) Explain maximum likelihood.

   (c) Explain key principles of Bayesian statistics.

   (d) Be able to diagram, write, and implement hierarchical models.

   (e) Explain the Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) algorithm.

(f) Use software for implementing MCMC methods (i.e., JAGS, R packages).

(g) Understand procedures for model checking and model selection in the Bayesian framework

(h) Be able to apply Bayesian methods to a broad array of analysis problems in ecological research.

9. Would you feel qualified to review a paper or proposal that used Bayesian methods if you were asked to do so?

10. What would you say, briefly, to a graduate student colleague who asked you about your experience in the course?