

Temporal Biology Seminar: Phenology

Phenology, the timing of annual life cycle events, is a critical trait in living organisms, influencing and being influenced by evolution and ecology across many scales. In this graduate seminar we will discuss the biological underpinning and implications of phenology through primary scientific literature.

Course objects: The goal of this course is for students to broadly consider the role that phenology plays in biological, ecological and evolutionary processes. Specifically, students will:

- Understand the biological and evolutionary underpinning of phenology.
- Consider the role of phenology in structuring ecological and evolutionary processes.
- Gain exposure to the diverse application of phenological research within the field of biology, and consider phenology's role in their own field of interest.

Course Structure: This seminar will meet once per week for two hours. Meetings will consist of brief introductory and concluding remarks by the instructor and a student facilitated discussion.

Prerequisites: Advanced academic standing with introductory coursework in ecology and evolution, or permission of instructor.

| Week | Topic | Lecture Focus | Readings |
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| Part I: Fundamentals | | | |
| Week 1 | Introductory Remarks | What is phenology anyway? and is phenology a “trait”? | Forest and Rushing 2010 Lechowicz 1984, Ollerton 1992, |
| Week 2 | Environmental Cues | Environmental factors influencing phenology and modeling phenological responses to environments | Rathke and Lacey 1985 Chuine 2000, Fu 2014 |
| Week 3 | Physiology of Phenology | How/Where do plants perceive their environment? and genetic regulation of phenology | Bernier 2005 Wilczek 2010, Visser 2010 |
| Week 4 | Evolution of Phenology | Heritability and local adaptation of phenology | Liepe 2016 McDonough-MacKenzie 2018, Vitasse 2009 |
| Week 5 | Carryover effects | Phenological sequences Maternal effects | Gougherty 2018 Johnsen 2005, Auge 2017 |
| Part II: Function | | | |
| Week 6 | Ecosystem Ecology | Phenology, fluxes and feedbacks | Richardson 2013 Fitzjarrald 2001, McKown 2012 |
| Week 7 | Community Ecology | Temporal Niches Phenology and Competition | Fargione 2005 Ross 1972, Wainwright 2011 |
| Week 8 | Evolutionary biology | Phenological speciation: Allochrony Phenology and life history evolution | Taylor 2017 Burghardt 2015, Rubin 2018 |
| Part III: Phenology in a changing world | | | |
| Week 9 | Phenological Shifts | Observed changes | Menzel 2006 Ffrench-Constant 2016, Fu, 2015 |
| Week 10 | Invasion | Phenology as a mechanism of invasion Rapid evolution of phenological response | Wolkovich 2013, Gioria 2017 Franks 2007 |
| Week 11 | Phenology and Extremes | False Spring Drought | Gu 2008 Ivits 2014, Cui 2017 |
| Week 12 | Phenological Mismatches | Pollinator networks Herbivory and Predation | Kudo 2003 Kharouba 2015, Petanidou 2014 |

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