BCB 501: BIOCOMPLEXITY SEMINAR Spring 2010

Time: Thursday 2:00-3:15 pm

Place: TLC 244

Topic: Mathematical models and biological concepts relevant to questions in microbial ecology and evolution.

Goal: To familiarize students with the combination of microbial ecology/evolution questions and mathematical modeling.

Format:
The format of this 1-credit class is that of a journal club. A graduate student, postdoctoral fellow or faculty member will present a research paper from a peer-reviewed high-quality journal. Emphasis should be on discussion of the approach of the study, results and their interpretation, and proposals for future studies (from the authors and the presenter). There should be plenty of room during or after the presentation for a group discussion. The paper will usually be a pre-determined journal article that everyone will have access to. The presenter will lead the group discussion, but all students are expected to have read the paper in detail and participate in the discussions.

The grade (Pass/Fail) will be based equally on (1) quality of the presentation, both in content and style and (2) degree and quality of class participation.

Papers for class will be available at http://people.ibest.uidaho.edu/~etop/courses.html under 'readings'.

Students should enroll in BCB501 – section 2: Biocomplexity.

Postdoctoral fellows, technicians and faculty, as well as students just auditing the class are also very welcome.

Contacts:
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From Wikipedia: "Biocomplexity in a narrower sense […]: the complex behavioral, biological, social, chemical, and physical interactions of living organisms with their environment. This subfield of biocomplexity is relatively new and encompasses other domains such as biodiversity and ecology."