BioES 261 – Ecology and the Environment Fall 1999
Writing-in-the-Majors Section David M. Post

Study Site and Lecture Journal

Each week you will write a journal entry. The goal of this assignment is to provide you with an informal way to link observations you have made at your "ecological study site" and the material discussed in lecture. Relating ideas drawn from disparate ecological systems (e.g., the examples provided in lecture) to a specific study site or model system is a very important part of modern ecology. This assignment provides you an opportunity to apply directly what you are learning in lecture, ask questions, and explore the issues from lecture that interest you.

There is no length requirement; write as much or as little as you desire. Remember, however, each week you must write about a topic presented in lecture. Whenever possible you should relate a lecture topic to observations you have made at your study site. I recommend that you regularly revisit your study site through the semester as new lecture topics are broached and as your perspective on ecology broadens.

Your journal is due each Friday. You may either give it to me after lecture on Friday, or drop it off at my office by 4:30 p.m. Friday afternoon. I will return your journals Monday morning in section.

Please buy a dedicated journal or notebook for this assignment. Put your name, phone number, and email address on it!

I will grade each journal entry using the check-minus/check/check-plus system. Your journal will receive a check-minus if it is turned in on time, a check if your work shows any thought, and a check-plus if the work is particularly insightful. Please write legibly.