BIO109: Natural History of the Southwest  
Lead instructor: Vashti (Tice) Supplee, M.S., 602-380-3722  

ASU Transfer Information:  
- Elective Credit (3), Elective Credit (1), Natural Science - General (SG), Natural Science - General (SG)  
- [ASU West: LSC 310, LSC 311]  

Lecture format:  
- Power Point is used during most lecture periods to present lecture material.  
- Power Point is available on the instructor web page to supplement every lecture.  
- Lecture format includes a review of the assigned readings  

Laboratory Format:  
- Hands-on activities are performed during every lab session by individual students or groups of 2 to 4 students.  
- Activities include exposure to parts of dead organisms (skulls, hides, feathers, bones).  
- Each student is expected to demonstrate their proficiency at keeping a field notebook.  
- Each student is expected to turn in a completed form reporting their results at the end of each lab.  

In-Class Examination format:  
- In class multiple-choice quizzes (4).  
- Internet Quiz (1)  
- Optional cumulative multiple-choice final (1).  

Homework Assignments such as reading and writing:  
- Readings in chapters of textbook and supplemental readings provided in a bound Bio109 book (26).  
- Notes in a Field Notebook based on text book and supplemental readings (20).  
- Essays (5).  

Attendance policy:  
- Attendance is required and will be recorded in laboratory.  
- Five of the laboratory sessions will be held off campus at nearby Phoenix locations. It is the student’s responsibility to meet at the field trip location or ride in a Phoenix College vehicle with the instructor. Class laboratory fees pay for the entry fees. Two Saturday field trips are optional.
Prerequisites and expectations of prior experience or knowledge on a given subject:
  • None

Skills that help students succeed:
  • Ability to understand written and verbal instructions are essential.
  • Strong study habits and time management skills are essential.
  • College level reading and writing abilities are important.
  • High School Algebra skills and basic computer literacy are important.