This course will focus on the mechanisms of speciation and cladogenetic diversification. We will explore current literature regarding the evolution of reproductive isolation.

**Credits:** 3  
**Meeting time & Place:** M 2-5, WRRB Conference Room

**Instructor:** Dr. Matt Olson  
230 West Ridge Research Bldg.  
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This course is conducted in a discussion format. Each week we will choose a set of readings from Coyne & Orr and recent Evolution Journals. Students will be required to lead discussions of the reading material and participate in discussions when not leading them. The goals of the course are to teach critical thinking about scientific hypothesis testing and learn the current state of knowledge concerning the process of speciation.

We will begin by reading Chapter 1 of Speciation and then read a subsequent chapter each of the following weeks. On Tuesday of each week one student will be chosen to help me identify one additional reading on the weeks' topic from the scientific literature for discussion.

**Grading:** Grades will be determined based on attendance and participation. Each student is allowed one week in which they can opt out of participation. Otherwise, students are expected to participate in all discussions. Satisfactory participation is defined as speaking in class, asking questions, providing meaningful commentary, and leading discussions when called on.

Needs of students with disabilities will be accommodates following University policies. Please talk to instructor privately if you have questions or require assistance. The UAF Center for Health and Counseling also provides disability services: [http://www.uaf.edu/ chc/disability.html](http://www.uaf.edu/ chc/disability.html).