Freshwater Food Webs  
Seminar 692, Fall 2004

Credits: 1, Pass/fail  
Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission from instructor  
Location: 214 O’Neill  
Meeting time: Wednesdays, 3-4pm

Instructor information: Mark Wipfli  
Office location: 138 Arctic Health  
Office hours: M-F, 10-11am and 1:30-2:30pm, or by appt.  
Telephone: 474-6654  
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Course readings/materials: Selected scientific articles chosen by students and approved by instructor.  
Supplementary readings: None required.

Course description: Course content will be across broad aspects of freshwater food webs, including recent and classic publications on methods for freshwater food web analyses, spatial subsidies, trophic structure and dynamics, trophic interactions, limiting factors, and related topics focused around freshwater ecosystems.

Course Goals: Provide students with an understanding of some of the most up-to-date studies and methods in freshwater food webs and their analyses. Student learning outcomes might include the use of fatty acid, stable isotope and/or stomach content analyses for determining energy flow in stream food webs.

Instructional methods: Group discussions. Students will select a paper or papers of their choice, and lead a discussion on its content, utility, relevance to their research, and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the research or methodology.

Course calendar: There will be weekly discussions on topics of interest to students, focused around topics of freshwater food webs, and decided within the first few weeks of classes. Specific topic updates or changes may occur as needed as the semester progresses.

Course policies: Attendance and timeliness is required although accommodations will be made for students with legitimate conflicts. These must be discussed with the instructor before the absence when possible.

Evaluation: No exam will be given. Pass/fail grade will be determined by class attendance and participation. Students are not allowed more than two unexcused absences. All students will be expected to lead one to two (depending on class size) group discussions during the semester.

Support Services: Negotiated upon request.

Disabilities Services: The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. The instructor will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-7043) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.