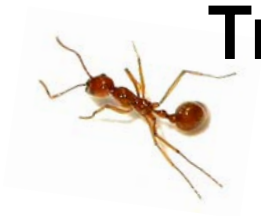
University of Copenhagen Graduate Course in Panama

Tropical Behavioural Ecology & Evolution



Course summary:

The course will provide an overview of the patterns and processes that determine tropical biodiversity and of the evolutionary biology of key invertebrate model systems. It is designed for graduate students at all levels beginning with proposal preparation, research implementation, and scientific manuscript preparation. The course will emphasize Tropical Behavioral Ecology and Evolution and begin three weeks prior to arriving in Panama where each student will meet and discuss his or her research ideas with the instructors using web-based tools, write a proposal in a STRI short-term fellowship format, and receive detailed comments from an instructor (April 11-29th). The instructors will consider the research interests of the students and adjust lectures and field projects to best suit the students. Once in Panama (May 1-25th), two small projects will be conducted in collaboration with other students and an instructor. A student lead independent project will be the focus of the course and should be executed with a publishable product in mind. Students will be expected to have a collaborative approach and will work in large and small groups for brainstorming, peer review, and report preparation. The final manuscript will be due one week after the field component in Panama is completed (June 1st). Students will have the opportunity interact with STRI staff and resident graduate students and become familiar with infrastructural aspects of tropical research in behavioural ecology and evolution (e.g. canopy cranes; permanent monitoring plots; global collaborative networks for biodiversity research; STRI infrastructural resources).

This synergistic international course should complement and inspire field based research interests in tropical behavioral ecology and evolution.

A. Wild

Dates: 11-29 April (online preparations) and 1-25 May (field course in Gamboa, Panama)

15 ECTS credits or equivalent, maximal number of participating students 20

The course is subsidized by the Centre of Social Evolution, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, but will still carry a fee of Dkr 6000 (ca € 800 or $1100) for the 3.5 weeks field component in Panama which will include expenses for accommodations and meals. Students will arrange and pay their own flights to Panama, where they are expected to arrive on the 1st of May, 2011.

For more information and how to apply for the course please go to: http://www1.bio.ku.dk/english/research/oe/cse/kurser/
or Email Rachelle at RAdams@bio.ku.dk

Professors
-Dr. Rachelle Adams, Marie-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Copenhagen, Smithsonian Institution Research Collaborator, Washington DC
-Dr. Jacobus J Boomsma, Professor, University of Copenhagen, STRI Research Associate
-Dr. E. Allen Herre, Staff Scientist, STRI; Adjunct NEO faculty, McGill University, Montreal
-Dr. Sunshine Van Bael, Associate Scientist, STRI, Panama
-Dr. Jonathan Z. Shik, Postdoctoral Fellow

Danish National Research Foundation Centre for Social Evolution

MARIE CURIE ACTIONS

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute