

**BIOL 4900 B SENIOR SEMINAR, FALL 2011**  
**Thurs. 5-7 pm, Rm. 1024**

**Instructor:** Dr. Brad Bergstrom, office 1107 BC, 333-5770, [bergstrm@valdosta.edu](mailto:bergstrm@valdosta.edu)  
Office Hours: MW 4:15--5, R 5 times by appt.

**Course Objective**

and disseminate the information in an organized and understandable fashion in both written and oral forms. Besides demonstrating comprehension of their topic and competence in communication skills, students take the ETS Major Field test in biology and complete the Senior Exit Questionnaire for success.

**- or Corequisite: completion of all required courses in the senior curriculum for**

**Grading:**

## **Independent Literature-research Project**

Your primary task in this course will be to research thoroughly the state of the art, as reflected in the current technical literature, of one well-defined question or area of applied ecology. You will become something of an expert on this one area, enough so that you can lucidly explain to your colleagues and visitors (as well as readers of your paper) what science currently knows about this question, and what controversies or debates exist among experts in this field. Whenever possible, I would encourage you to present evidence on both sides of a divided question and to conclude which side is more persuasive to you (this will not be applicable to all topics). You should also be able to answer good questions from the audience, which may be elicited by your presentation.

**Paper:** prepare a typed, double-