Natural History of Invertebrates Grade Calculations

Your letter grade will be based on the following

(1) Practical quiz average -25 percent

   We will have a total of six quizzes: two quizzes a week for the first two weeks on Wednesday and Friday and two quizzes on Monday and Wednesday the last week. The quizzes will focus on general invertebrate and vertebrate identification and anatomy, and will use the video tape made from the previous days work. Your quiz grade will be the average of these quizzes. The video tape will be left in the NHI cabinet for your use and review.

(2) Written assignments - 25 percent

   We will have a total of six written assignments. Assignments will be turned in on quiz day. Written assignments will consist of a single page of single-spaced typing with 1" margins. This page should consist of (1) the most significant question or problem that you discovered in the previous days work, (2) the null hypothesis appropriate to that problem and how you would test it, and (3) the evolutionary context of this problem. Please try to limit your paper to a single page of typing.

(3) Project - 25 percent

   You will need to do an independent research project, and I strongly recommend doing it with a partner. You will also get a reasonable amount of help in making the selection and getting started. Your project grade will be based on the following:

   a. Two or more quantitative tools – 5 percent
   b. General conduction of the project – 5 percent
   c. Written report format, prep, etc. – 10 percent
   d. Oral presentation – 5 percent

(4) Collection – 25 percent

   You will be responsible for a dry insect collection of 10 specimens and a wet/slide collection of 10 other invertebrate groups/phyla. Making collections is an art, so you will end up making some throwaways in the process of learning the techniques. Each specimen must be accompanied by the necessary data, entered as your record and specimen label. METHODS: Labels can be made using Microsoft Word and a Laser Printer (instructions available)

Data include two labels:

   FIRST LABEL
   USA; STATE: COUNTY
   MAP LOCATION
   DATE OF COLLECTION
   COLLECTOR

   SECOND LABEL
   IDENTIFICATION TO FAMILY, GENUS, SPECIES ETC.

   EXAMPLE:

   FIRST LABEL
   USA, NE.; KEITH CO.
   CEDAR CREEK, 41.18639, -101.36276
   5-VI-2003 (VI-5-2003 or Jun 5, 2003 is fine, but **NOT** 6-5-2003 or 5-6-2003)
   MG BOLEK

   SECOND LABEL
   ODONATA: LIBELLULIDAE: *Erythemis simplicicollis*