

**Limnology**  
**FW 456/556**

**Credit hours:** 5

**Term offered:** Spring

**Instructor:** Gregory

**Course objectives:** This course examines the structure and function of aquatic ecosystems, emphasizing the physical, chemical, and biological processes of lakes. Contrast between lakes and stream ecosystems are highlighted. Interactions between biological communities and physical and chemical processes are explored. The course presents applications of recent ecological principles for research and management of aquatic ecosystems.

**Course content:** The course consists of both lectures and laboratory exercises. Each week includes four 50-minute lectures and a 3-hour laboratory. Fundamental ecological concepts are presented during the lectures, and local aquatic ecologists provide guest lectures on selected topics. The laboratory is designed to include both demonstration exercises and long-term group experiments. Group experiments are designed by the instructors, and include both field and laboratory experiments. Students are encouraged to modify the experimental designs to take advantage of their expertise and interests.

**Prerequisites:** Senior standing

**Text:** Wetzel, R.G. 1983 Limnology. Saunders College Publishing, Philadelphia. 767 p.

**Students for whom the course is intended:** Seniors and graduate students in aquatic ecology. Students with backgrounds primarily in physical sciences are encouraged to take the course with the understanding that additional effort may be required for the biological portion of the course.