### Course Title: Adirondack Forest Ecology

**Instructor(s):**
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- Dep’t of Biology  
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**Dates:** Tuesday 5 May – Wednesday 20 May, 2015

**Location:** Adirondack Ecological Center, Newcomb, NY, USA

**Cost:** $850***. Includes transportation (from and returning to London, ON or Hamilton, ON), lodging, and meals starting with dinner on May 5 and ending with lunch on May 20. To reserve a place in the course, a deposit of $350 is due at registration and payment is due in full on March 15, 2015.

**Prerequisites:** 2 courses in Biology

**Requirements:** Valid travel documents for entering the US and returning to Canada (This definitely includes a passport and may include a Visa depending on your Country of citizenship). Proof of supplementary medical insurance for travel to the US.

**Enrolment:** 20 students (4 reserved for UWO students)

**Description:** At more than 24,000 km², the Adirondack Park is one of the largest protected areas in eastern North America. It is 3.5 times the size of Algonquin Provincial Park with similar forests and more mountainous topography. This course will explore the natural history of environments within the Adirondack Park, including alpine, boreal, northern hardwood, upland, lowland and aquatic communities. We will observe the Adirondacks during leaf-out in early spring – one of the most dynamic times of year. In order to take full advantage of being in the field, the course will focus on three themes:
- Identification of flora and fauna  
- Field measurement techniques  
- Natural and human history of the Adirondacks  

Students will be required to:
- Teach themselves about the basic ecology of one common bird species and one common tree species before leaving on the trip and introduce the class to these species when we arrive in the Adirondacks.  
- Keep a field journal (to be submitted on May 20).  
- Conduct an independent project including data collection during final third of the course with a final report to be completed by June 15.

**Evaluation:**
- Participation during course 25%  
- Introducing the class to assigned species 5%  
- Mid-course (field) exam 20%  
- Field journal 20%  
- Final report 30%

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***Students who drop a field course should not expect a refund of any field course costs. Students are encouraged to purchase cancellation insurance if airline tickets are required.