

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: BIO 270

Credits: 3

Course Title: General Ecology

Course Description: Studies interrelationships between organisms and their natural and cultural environments with emphasis on populations, communities, and ecosystems.

Prerequisites: BIO 101 and 102 or departmental approval. Lecture 2 hours. Recitation and laboratory 3 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: The content covered in this course is equivalent to that of an introductory, college-level, ecology course. Credit for this course satisfies the requirement of a science laboratory class for the AS in Science degree.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: BIO 101 and BIO 102 or departmental approval.

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Understand environmental science;
- b. Use critical thinking skills to evaluate scientific and technical issues both personally and more globally; and
- c. Understand key concepts of biology, chemistry, and physics, and relate them to social, political, and ethical issues.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Ecosystems
- b. Populations
- c. Communities

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: February 16, 2009