

**Senior Essay**  
**Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology**

Submission Date:	Semester:	
<b>STUDENT INFORMATION</b>		
Student's Last Name:	First:	Middle:
Email Address:		
Class:	Student ID:	Cell Phone:
Topic for Senior Paper:		
B.A. Senior Requirement:	YES	NO
Student's Signature:		
Date:		
<b>DESCRIPTION OF SENIOR ESSAY REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<p>The senior essay is graded, but it carries no course credit. The senior essay should be a critical evaluation of some portion of the current, primary biological literature. The topic may be anything within the realm of biology or it may explore the relationships of biology to other fields. Each student must obtain approval of the paper topic from a member of the EEB department to assure that the subject is a promising one. The paper is to be 20 double-spaced pages, not including bibliography. The DUS or the faculty in charge of senior projects will ask a faculty advisor to read and grade each paper. Students may suggest readers if they wish. Papers are to be submitted to the student's senior essay advisor and a copy to the faculty in charge of the senior projects. Normally, a letter grade is reported to the registrar by the faculty in charge. If the essay is "Unsatisfactory", the student may make arrangements with the DUS to submit another paper. Papers received late may not be processed before Commencement.</p> <p>Hints for finding a faculty member to advise on senior essay:          First decide on the general area you would like to explore in your senior essay. Then try to find which faculty member might have an interest or expertise in that area. The best sources are the faculty member's own website, and the EEB department booklet, available from the office of the director of undergraduate studies (OML 103), on "Faculty Research Interests."          Second, if a faculty member discussed the topic in a course, he/she would be a good choice. Otherwise, look through the Yale College Program of Study (blue book) to see which faculty member teaches a course that includes your prospective topic.          Approach the faculty member identified above. If he/she is not the best person to advise you on your topic, the faculty member should know who would be more knowledgeable in your area. Your senior essay advisor will often not be the same advisor that signs your course listings.          In discussion with the essay advisor, narrow your area of interest to a focused topic on which you can write in depth; a superficial review of a broad field is not appropriate. The advisor may also suggest a few references to start off your reading in the field.</p>		
<b>TO THE SENIOR ESSAY MENTOR</b>		
<p>By signing this form, you agree to supervise the student's senior essay project and provide the necessary support. You also agree to grade the final paper and report a grade to the EEB DUS. This should be reported no later than the last day of the final examination period. Notification by email is acceptable and preferred to the EEB director of undergraduate studies: <a href="mailto:Marta.Wells@yale.edu">Marta.Wells@yale.edu</a> (or her assistant, <a href="mailto:deanna.brunson@yale.edu">deanna.brunson@yale.edu</a>).</p>		
<b>MENTOR'S INFORMATION</b>		
Mentor's Name:		
Mentor's Email:		
Mentor's Phone:		
Mentor's Signature:		
Date:		
<b>DUS APPROVAL</b>		
DUS Signature:		
Date:		