THE BIOLOGY OF EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS
BIOL 4005.006 - Topics in Biology
Fall 2018

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Warren Burggren, Prof. of Biology (burggren@unt.edu)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This interactive, lecture- and discussion-based course for juniors and seniors explores the biology of extreme environments. Deep sea thermal vents, high altitude, deserts, polar regions, hot springs, volcanos, caves, alkaline lakes, highly polluted sites are examples of extreme environments that presents real challenges to survival, yet are often found to host a wide variety of life – often quite exotic. Drawing examples from plants, animals and microbes, this course will explore biochemical, physiological, morphological and behavioral adaptations that have allowed life to survive, if not thrive, in extreme niches.

GRADING: There will be no formal exams. The course grade will be based on major writing assignments, student presentations, and active participation in discussions.

CREDIT: 3 SCH
MEETING TIME AND LOCATION: Wednesday evenings, 6-8:50 PM, Location TBD
CLASS SIZE LIMIT: 30