

Short Course in Aquatic Food Web Ecology



Objectives: Course participants will learn about the fundamentals of food web ecology through the lens of East African rivers. This five-day short course will be a combination of recorded lectures and live online discussions that will include topics on the importance of aquatic consumers and methods for quantifying food web interactions.

Location: Virtual

Dates: 7th – 11th June, 2021

Contact for registration: Dr. Therese Frauendorf, therese.frauendorf@yale.edu

Prerequisite: A basic understanding of ecology will be beneficial

Please download and install R: <https://www.r-project.org/>

Description: We will post 1-3 lectures each day onto the Google Classroom platform (link will be provided upon registration) with each lecture lasting approximately one hour. On Wednesday and Friday (time TBD) we will invite you to a discussion over Zoom, where you will have the opportunity to meet the lecturers and address your questions. Links to the Zoom discussions will also be posted onto the website.

Instructors:

National Museums of Kenya

Mr. Laban Njoroge, Head of Invertebrate Zoology Section

University of Eldoret, Kenya

Dr. Frank Masese, Department Head of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

Mr. Alfred Otieno Achieng, Lecturer and Fisheries Scientist

University of Florida, USA

Dr. Amanda Subalusky, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology

Dr. Chris Dutton, Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Mr. Joshua Benjamin, Doctoral Student

Yale University, USA

Dr. David Post, Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Dr. Therese Frauendorf, Post-Doctoral Research Associate

Certificate of completion: To receive a certificate of completion, we ask that you write a short (~ 1 paragraph) reflection that includes 2 questions about each lecture. The reflection can be a summary of what you have learned, what was the most interesting part, how you may apply this topic to your research, or other ideas from the lecture. Please upload your reflection and questions onto the website by the end of each class day.

Proposed Schedule:

Day	Topic	Lecturer
Monday (7th June)	Introduction to Food Web Ecology	Dr. David Post
	Food Webs in East African Rivers	Dr. Frank Masese
	Short Introduction into Basic R	Dr. Chris Dutton
Tuesday (8th June)	Invertebrates in East African Freshwater Habitats	Mr. Laban Njoroge
	Ecology of Freshwater Fish in the Lake Victoria Basin	Mr. Alfred Achieng
	The Influence of Large Wildlife on Aquatic Ecosystems	Dr. Amanda Subalusky
Wednesday (9th June)	Field Methods to Study Aquatic Food Webs	Mr. Joshua Benjamin
	Discussion	Virtual Zoom meeting Time: TBD
Thursday (10th June)	Stable Isotopes and Food Chains	Dr. David Post
	Quantitative Food Webs	Dr. Therese Frauendorf
Friday (11th June)	Analyzing Stable Isotopes using MixSIAR in R	Dr. Chris Dutton & Dr. Therese Frauendorf
	Discussion	Virtual Zoom meeting Time: TBD

Support by:

Yale University



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