ENT 812, Section 601: Pollination Ecology

Instructor: Julianna Tuell, Department of Entomology

Course Description: One in every three bites of food we eat can be attributed to pollinators. It is estimated that nearly 80% of all angiosperms require animal-mediated pollination and the seeds and fruit that result support a multitude of organisms. Many plants and their pollinators have coevolved and are studied in the context of natural selection for traits such as flower shape and color. Plant-pollinator interactions are important in measuring ecosystem health and restoration success, and some pollinators are used as bio-indicators.

This 1-credit seminar course will survey current topics in pollination ecology. Each week students will be assigned readings to be discussed during the next class session. Some sessions will have guest lecturers. The class will focus mainly on bees, but 2-3 sessions will be devoted to other pollinators. There will also be a short writing assignment due towards the end of the semester.

For more information, please contact: Julianna at tuelljul@msu.edu