ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

TROPICAL RAINFOREST [BIOL. 453/553]
FALL 2003

GOAL:
To learn about the ecology of tropical rainforests, current threads to the forests, and efforts being made to protect them.

CLASS MEETINGS:
Mondays, 13:00-14:50 pm., MS-215

INSTRUCTOR:
Dr. Jorge E. Arriagada; Office: MS-219; MS-216 [Herbarium]; Phone: 308-3456
E-mail: jearriagada@stcloudstate.edu; Office hours: by appointment

TEXTBOOK [required]:
Tropical Rainforest by Arnold Newman

ATTENDANCE:
Regular attendance is expected. One absence will be “forgiven,” but you still must turn in your paragraphs. If you miss a second time, come to the class during the final week on Monday December 15.

SEMINAR FORMAT:
Each week, students come to class having read the assigned chapters. Bring one 50-100 word paragraph on each of three interesting/meaningful/puzzling topics you found in the week’s reading. BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANY OF THESE TOPICS. Your paragraphs can be typed or neatly written; include your name and chapter titles at the top of your page. As time allows, we’ll go around the room and discuss your various topics. Turn in your paper at the end of the class. In addition, during the course you will stand in front of the class and give a 15-30 minutes oral presentation. Your presentation will be a summary/explanation of something you learned from other sources that relate to your chapter. You are encouraged to use handouts, the blackboard, Powerpoint, or whatever helps you in giving an effective presentation.

GRADING:
Your final course grade should reflect what you know at the end of the semester, not necessarily the amount of effort you made. Grading is S/U. 
Note: I will also be determining a subjective grade. This grade will be based on my evaluation of your attendance, participation, and attitude. This subjective grade will influence your final grade in the course, especially in borderline cases. If you are having problems with the class, do not hesitate to see me. HELP IS AVAILABLE ANYTIME YOU NEED IT BUT DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO ASK FOR IT.