

ECL 290 – SPRING 2023 (1-UNIT)

USING BIOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS TO ASSESS THE ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS OF GLOBAL CHANGE

Course instructors: Emily Meineke (emeineke@ucdavis.edu) & Zoe Wood (zmwood@ucdavis.edu)

Course description: Natural history collections and museum specimens are vast repositories of biodiversity data that encompass a considerable amount of ecological power. As a group, we will examine novel approaches and contemporary studies that incorporate the use of natural history collections, physical and/or digitized museum specimens, and biodiversity data. Topics may include but are not limited to phenology and addressing biases, functional traits, using museum specimens to estimate populations and abundance, species interactions, community science, the use of computer vision and AI, and the extended specimen. This will be primarily an in-person, paper discussion-based seminar, with a museum visit component.

Time & Location – This 1-unit seminar will meet for 2 hours each week for Weeks 1-5 with no meetings during Weeks 6-10. Location TBD; interested students please email Zoe Wood (zmwood@ucdavis.edu) so we can arrange a course meeting time.

