Course set-up and expectations:
Each week, students are responsible for reading and discussing 1 to 2 papers selected by students and approved by the course instructor. All readings should be selected from primary literature, ideally published within the last few years in a higher impact journal, and include a quantitative data analysis or modeling to support their conclusions. Participants must attend all seminars (or make prior arrangements to compensate for their absence) and actively participate in them. The activities and grade will be structured as follows:

1. Discussions of the selected papers (30% of the grade).
2. Weekly selection of readings; each participant selects at least one reading (20% of the grade)
3. Presentation (25 min.) of a selected reading in the context of other papers (25% of the grade)
4. Leading seminar discussion at least once (25% of the grade).

Ideally two students will be assigned to each paper to lead and facilitate group discussions. All students will be expected to have read the paper thoroughly and have a good understanding of the methods, results and importance of the paper. All students will prepare at least five significant questions/discussion points about the paper.
Global Change Ecology Graduate Seminar – Schedule

Seminar meets on Thursdays at 2-2:55 pm in Illick 334 unless otherwise advised. Additional information is available from seminar coordinator, Dr. Martin Dovčiak (mdovciak@esf.edu).

Sept. 1  Seminar information & introductions.

Sept. 8  Discussion of readings below. Sign-up for presentation and discussion leadership.

Sept. 15

Sept. 22

Sept. 29

Oct. 6

Oct. 13

Oct. 20

Oct. 27

Nov. 3

Nov. 10

Nov. 17
- DeFrenne et al. (2011). Temperature effects on forest herbs assessed by warming and transplant experiments along a latitudinal gradient. Global Change Biology 17, 3240–3253.

Nov. 24  Thanksgiving (no class)

Dec. 1
- Ashcroft and Gollan (2011). Fine-resolution (25 m) topoclimatic grids of near-surface (5 cm) extreme temperatures and humidities across various habitats in a large (200 × 300 km) and diverse region. Int. J. Climatol. DOI: 10.1002/joc.2428.

Dec. 8
- Frelich et al. (invited paper, outline). Interactions among trophic levels and invasive species influence the response to climate change of the temperate-boreal forest ecotone in eastern North America.

Footnotes: Papers selected by students after the discussion with the seminar coordinator.