Week 1

What is ecology?

- Connections in nature

- Interactions that determine/predict the distribution and abundance of organisms.

- Understanding process that drives change.

Distribution = where	Abundance = how many

Ecological terminology

Key Terms

Individual – organism a unit in a population, genetically discrete

Species – individuals capable of successful interbreeding

Population – interacting and interbreeding individuals of a species

Community – a group of interacting species

Ecosystem – biotic community and its abiotic attributes

Populations

Structures – distribution, abundance, species present sex ratio, age structure, genetic diversity

Dynamics – changes to distribution, abundance, structure

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