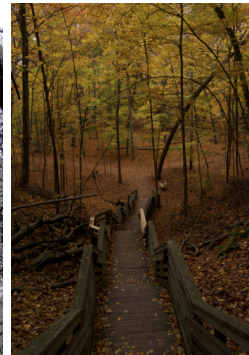


Biology Field Study

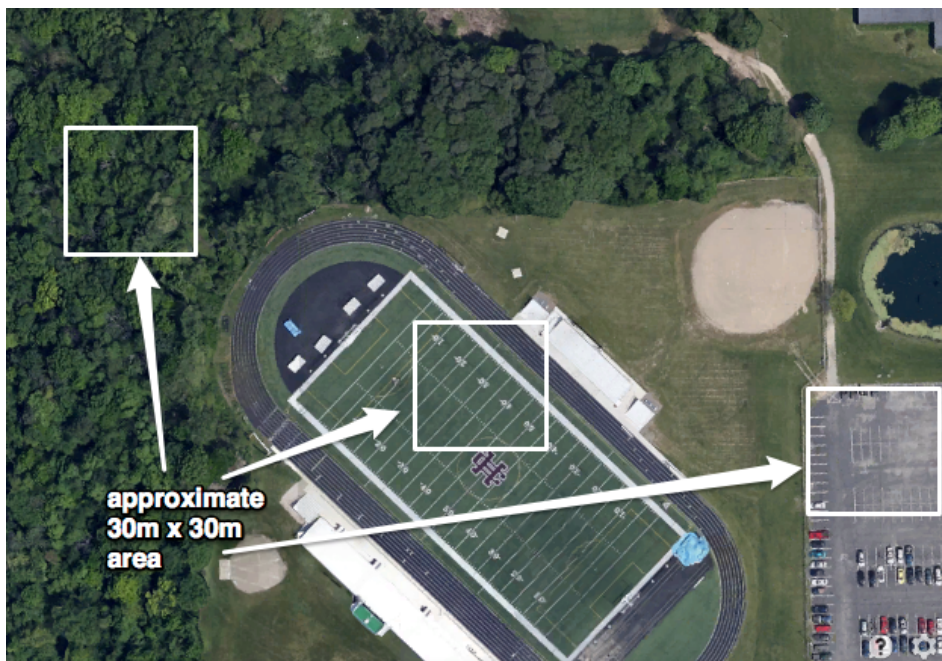
Introduction: The beauty and complexity of the world around us is AMAZING and Michigan's climate creates some of the most beautiful seasonal transitions in the world. (All these pictures were taken right in this area by current and former students and teachers!) We've spent a lot of time discussing and connecting back to Psalm 8 and the ideas of awe and stewardship. To continue to understand the world around us better and appreciate it even more, we want to spend some time outside and interact with it.



Getting Started:

Keep thinking about some of the methods we've been using to observe in our pond study (The Art of Noticing, sound mapping, etc.) Choose a spot of land very accessible to your home where you could enjoy observing the living things, their habitat, human impacts and the seasonal changes. Selection of your spot is important because the more varied and interesting your spot, the more interesting and

rewarding your study will be. A good field study location will have some woods, some field/field edge and some water (a stream or pond is usually a great addition if it is natural). **Your location choice should NOT be a residential backyard!** The dimensions should be about 30 x 30 meters. The following picture is a bird's eye view of school that should give you a pretty good sense of 30 x 30.



Blog Requirements:

1. **Create a blog/website and link it to your name on [the Google Doc](#) in alphabetical order under the correct class period. It will ultimately be linked to our [class website](#):**
 - a. **DO NOT** use your full name in titles, URLs, etc.
 - b. If you don't already use another format, Blogger works just fine for this project as it can handle pictures and video along with your writing and can get comments. If you have another format choice, check in with your instructor before you start. ([an example](#))
 - c. If you do not have Internet access at home, please see your instructor as soon as possible.
 - d. All information must be posted on the blog correctly by 5 pm on the due dates.
 - e. Many of you will have impressive blogs and may want to save them as more colleges/universities request portfolio types of materials to determine admission. This project would be an excellent item to add to admissions material in those types of situations.
2. **LOCATION INFORMATION:** (10 points)
 - a. Fill in [the Google form](#) for your location choice (2). **DUE: August 29 by 5pm**
 - b. Make a map of your plot showing its natural features, woods, fields, streams, large trees, etc. You may use Google Maps (satellite view) or similar resources and label things if it's clear enough for your spot of land. (Pull into Sketch/Google Draw to add labels or clarifying information.) Post it to your blog clearly labeled but **DO NOT INCLUDE ANY IDENTIFYING FEATURES (road names, etc.)**. Check with your instructor if you have

any questions before posting. (8) ***DUE: September 9 (post by 5pm)***

i. Examples:



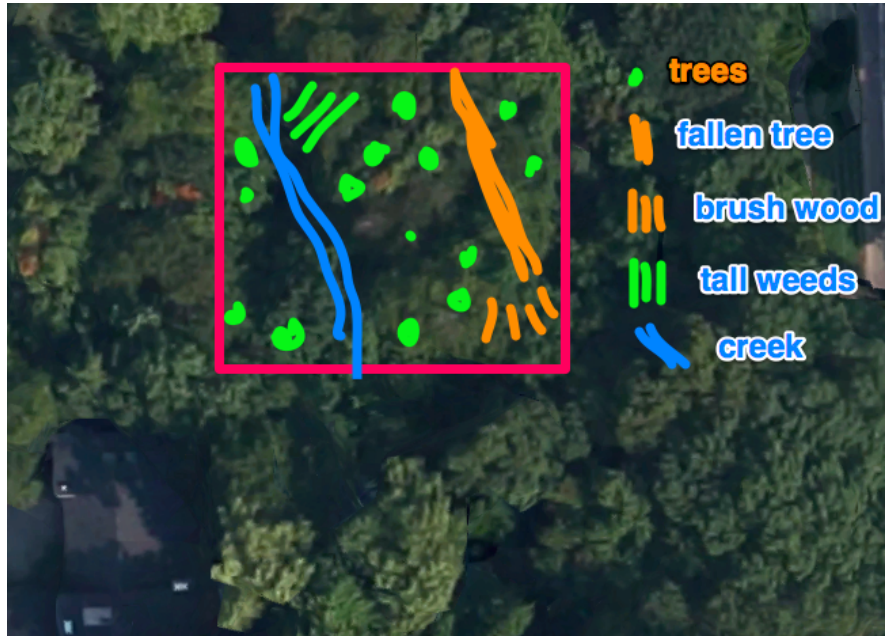
General Layout of my plot.



Overhead view of my area

1.

2.



3. **VIDEO:** Make a video that introduces a visitor to your blog to the spot of land you are observing. Post it to the blog. (10 points) **DUE: September 9 (post by 5pm)**

a. Requirements:

- Maximum of 30 seconds.
- You should introduce (visually and verbally) some of the key features of the spot and let the audience hear the natural sounds of the spot.
- Edit your video! The sounds should be clear and the video should make slow steady transitions (Don't make your viewers seasick and keep their interest limiting yourself to the 30 second time limit!).
- You must be in the video visually at some point but most of it may be voiceover.

b. Examples:

- [Example](#)
- [Example](#) (both videos are worth checking out!)
- [Example](#)
- [Example](#)
- [Example](#)
- [Example](#)

4. **SOUND MAP** – Post it to the blog. (5 points) **DUE: Sept 29 (post by 5pm)**

5. **SKETCH(ES)** -- think about "[The Art of Noticing](#)" Post it to the blog. (5 points) **DUE: Sept 29 (post by 5pm)**

6. **FIELD NOTES:** Blog your observations. **Do once during every time frame**

a. Observations should include BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO the following:

i. Items to include at EVERY visit:

- 1. AT LEAST one photograph (of the same spot each time – with you in at least one)** Some students in the past have made beautiful use of the

panorama aspects of their cameras or other technology. (Examples [example #1](#), [example #2](#), [example#3](#)). Most of you will definitely want to include more than one photo each week. (A final post will need all the pictures together: [example#1](#), [example #2](#))

2. date and time
 3. present climate conditions (rain, snow, wind, etc.)
 4. temperature
 5. length of day from sunrise to sunset (easily accessible online – see your instructor if you have any trouble with this!)
 6. organisms smelled, felt, heard, or seen, etc (sketches/photos/video where possible)
 7. changes noticed since the last visit
- ii. Items you do not need to have for every visit but want to include at some point(s):
1. any other data or impressions from the observation time.
 2. any experiences, questions, thoughts related to awe and stewardship
 3. questions about what you are seeing
- b. You must have 1 visit in each of the following time frames but keep them **at least 1 week apart** because seeing the seasonal changes is part of our goal! (For example, don't go October 15 and October 16):
- i. August - September 9
 - ii. September 10 - September 29
 - iii. September 30 - October 16
 - iv. October 17 - November 3
 - v. November 4 - November 24
- c. ***You may visit a location with another student, but please do not use the same location for your weekly photos as any other Bio B student. (10 points for each visit = 50 points)*

PLEASE FOLLOW THE SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY GUIDELINES WE DISCUSSED, ESPECIALLY THE FOLLOWING:

1. **DO NOT STUDY ANY NON-PUBLIC LAND YOUR FAMILY DOES NOT OWN WITHOUT OBTAINING PERMISSION.**
2. **STAY AWARE OF HUNTING DATES!!!**
3. **WEAR ORANGE EVEN IF HUNTING IS NOT ALLOWED ON YOUR PLOT!**
4. **BE SURE SOMEONE KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE IF YOU GO OUT ALONE. I RECOMMEND GOING OUT WITH ANOTHER PERSON.** (If you choose to share an area with another Bio B student and visit it together, be sure your journal photo locations/weekly observation spots are different.)

Bio for the Science Major: ** Original Research and Alternatives: Be sure to follow [the deadlines](#) given!

[1M Field Study Original Research and Alternatives](#)