

Biology Seminar



Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

12:30 - 1:30 pm
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BGS 0165



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Using thermal physiology to explain patterns of biodiversity and response to climate change

Climate variability shapes the thermal tolerance of ectotherms and therefore determines their distributions, abundances, and vulnerability to climate change. However, the mechanisms by which temperature affects ectotherms, from genes to communities, are poorly understood. I use insects as models to test hypotheses about links between climate, physiology, genetic architecture, and community dynamics with the goal of understanding and predicting species response to change. Here, I will primarily present my work testing Dan Janzen's classic Climate Variability Hypothesis in aquatic insects from temperate and tropical mountain streams.

