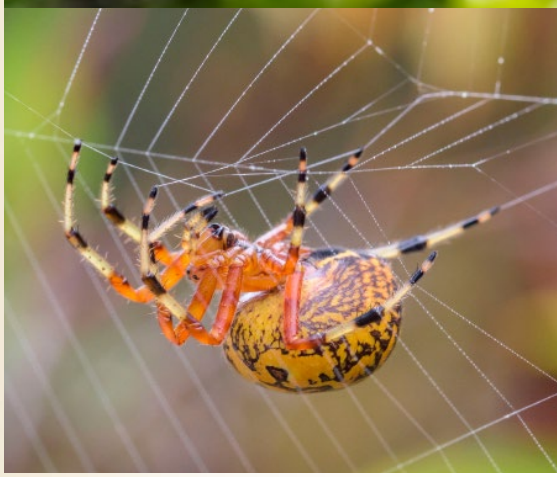

SPIDER BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, AND IDENTIFICATION

2023 Eagle Hill Natural History Science Seminars on the coast of eastern Maine

Instructor: Dr. Matthias Foellmer

When: July 21 – July 27, 2024

This seminar will provide a comprehensive introduction to spider evolution, systematic classification, morphology, behavior, physiology, and ecology. Seminar participants will study spiders from a wide array of local habitats, including woodlands, old fields, marshlands, and the seashore. A significant component of the seminar will involve the collection and identification of spiders through use of a variety of collection and observation methods, including night collection. Lectures and discussions will not only cover the fundamental topics but will also highlight current frontiers of research and where research on spiders has been contributing to conceptual advances in biology. In the lab, we will identify specimens to fully appreciate spider diversity in relation to environmental conditions and habitat. We will also watch videos and have informal discussion sessions on all aspects of spider biology. If you have something interesting to share, please bring it. The seminar will offer great opportunities for students who wish to earn additional credits (i.e. more than two); simply email the instructor beforehand.

GENERAL INFO **CALENDAR** **APPLY**

about the instructor

Matthias Foellmer (foellmer@adelphi.edu) Dr. Matthias Foellmer is a professor of biology at Adelphi University on Long Island, NY. His education and professional career include a B.Sc. (Biology) from Free University Berlin, Germany, a Ph.D. (Biology) from Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, a stay as Visiting Scholar at the University of California, Riverside, and faculty positions at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia and Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. He is broadly interested in evolutionary ecology, biodiversity, and applied ecology. His research focuses on the evolution of extreme sexual dimorphisms in orb-web spiders, including studies on the evolutionary significance of sexual cannibalism and male self-sacrificial behaviors. Recent work includes salt marsh ecology and investigating the impact of pesticide application, pollution and habitat degradation on salt marsh communities, especially with respect to spider and insect diversity on Long Island, NY.

Photographs taken by Kefyn Catley. Samples of Kefyn's images can be found here: www.hiddennatureimages.com