

Ricklefs & some bozo (2011)

1. If ecology and biogeography historically split [in part] because they had different focal scales of interest, and ecology now more explicitly wrestles with scale, what else remains to resist merger of these disciplines?
2. What does it mean today to identify as an ecologist vs. a biogeographer?

Johnson et al. (2015)

3. 1st ¶. “When diversity suppresses the density of individual species, the transmission of many infectious agents is inhibited.” Does this dilution effect apply to the COVID-19 outbreak?
4. Fig. 1. Which of the eight combinations of stepwise up- or down-arrows are most likely for any given study system you might want to investigate?
5. Is the dilution effect a matter of biotic interactions among hosts or probabilistic encounters with disease vectors? What about amplification?
6. Do ecologists or epidemiologists study dilution effects?
7. How could you test the hypothesis in Fig. 2?
8. Does a community have a competence?