NR14 – PRINCIPLES OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Course Syllabus for Spring 2017 – Section #59328

Lecture: Wednesday 8:00am – 9:50am (FEM 8)

Lab: Wednesday 10:00am - 12:50pm (FEM 8)

**Instructor**: Louie M Long Jr

Office , Phone 4F : (559) 638-0300 Ext. 3268

Office Hours: Tues 8:00am – 1200pm

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**Course Description:**Examination of plant and animal ecology in relation to wildlife management. Review of wildlife management techniques. Identification of wildlife species found in the western United States. Evaluation of the role of wildlife management in endangered species recovery.

**Course Objectives**:

Introduce students to local and regional wildlife species and to develop expertise in wildlife identification, taking field notes, and exposure to common field techniques used by wildlife managers. Students will also be exposed to habitat management, population estimation, and wildlife conservation issues.

**Books**:

All lecture material (Power Points, handouts) will be made available to you via CANVAS in advance of the lecture and will remain available for the duration of the class. Studying the lecture material is important for your success in this class. We will be spending a lot of time identifying various wildlife species found on and off campus. The required texts for this class are 2 easy to use and affordable field guides from the National Audubon Society.

**Required** – National Audubon Society Birds: Western Region (Rev. Ed.)

National Audubon Society Guide to North American Mammals

The text book listed below is optional. Not all of the material we cover in this class is found in the text listed.

**Recommended** -Wildlife Ecology and Management, Bolen and Robinson, most recent

edition.

All lab materials will be provided either as handouts or they will be made available on CANVAS. You will need to purchase a field notebook. These can be purchased for as little as $1.70 in the Reedley College Bookstore. The field notebook should be pocket sized for ease of transport. You will be required to keep it with you at all times and make entries for every lab that we conduct. Your field notebook will be submitted for a grade at the end of the semester.

**Required** – pocket-sized field notebook

**Field Trips:**

**Always come prepared to go outside during lab. My definition of “Being Prepared” means to wear hiking boots or work boots, wear long pants, and to bring other items such as water, bug repellent, rain gear (even if there is a slight chance of rain), and plenty of warm cloths.**

We will be spending many of our labs out on the school farm or other places around campus. We will also may be taking a few trips to the Thorburn property located on the Kings River. Field Trip waivers will be required for all students prior to each field trip.

**Quizzes, Assignments, Exams, Research Paper, Grading Policy:**

**Quizzes:**

While quizzes may seem like a hassle, they are a great way to assess whether or not you are truly learning the material being taught. I have found that students often feel like they are understanding the material until they take a quiz. Doing bad on a quiz is not the end of the world. It is however a wakeup call for you and me.

We will take many quizzes in this class. They are generally 10 questions or less, fill in the blank, short answer type quizzes. We usually take quizzes at the start of the class and grade them immediately so you will know how well you did. I try to post quiz grades to CANVAS by the end of the day, though this doesn’t always happen. I will not give make-up quizzes so it is important that you attend class.

**Assignments:**

All lab assignments are due at the end of the lab period unless otherwise instructed. Simply write your name on the front page, staple all of the pages together and leave in on the podium in the front of the class. Because many of the labs that we complete require the use of special equipment or additional setup time, it is difficult if not impossible to make up a lab assignment. If you need to make up a lab, it is your responsibility to arrange a make-up time. All late assignments will receive a 15% grade reduction and must be turned in within two weeks of due date to receive any credit. Work completed more than 2 weeks after the due date will not be accepted.

**Exams:**

We will take 2 midterm exams and a final exam in this class. The 1st midterm will cover all material discussed from day 1 until the exam date. The 2nd midterm will cover all material discussed after the 1st midterm until the exam date. The final exam will be a cumulative exam that covers all material discussed starting from day 1.

All exams will be multiple choice. You will be required to bring a Scantron 882E answer sheet to the exam. The midterms are approximately 50 questions each (give or take) and the final exam is approximately 100 questions (give or take). I usually will include extra credit questions on the exams. These questions will be short answer type questions.

If you miss an exam, it is your responsibility to schedule a make-up exam with me within 1 week of the exam date. After that, you will receive a 0 on the exam.

**Research Paper and Presentation**:

Students will choose a wildlife species that they must research and report on. A well-researched, typed report is due on the day of your presentation (see assignment handout for details). You must include basic natural history (taxonomy, description, habitat requirements, breeding biology, etc.). Be certain to include a section on how man has affected the species (i.e habitat loss through development, over harvesting). You will also prepare a 10 minute PowerPoint presentation on your species (see assignment handout for details).

**Due Dates**:

1. Subject must be assigned/selected by **Monday, January 25** (***5 points***)
2. A list of references must be turned in by **Monday, February 22** (***15 pts***)
3. A rough draft of the presentation must be turned in **Monday, March 22** (***30 pts***)

Your presentation will be given on assigned dates and times to be set by mid semester(***100 pts***). Presentations must be given on the established due date.

**Campus Policy on Plagiarism**:

Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating: the use of another’s words or ideas without identifying them as such or giving credit to the source. Plagiarism may include, but is not limited to, failing to provide complete citations and references for all work that draws on the ideas, words, or work of others, failing to identify contributors to work done in collaboration, submitting duplicated work to be evaluated in different courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors involved, or failing to observe computer security systems and software copyrights.

Incidents of cheating and plagiarism may result in any of a variety of sanctions and penalties, which may range from a failing grade on the particular examination, paper, project, or assignment in question to a failing grade in the course, at the discretion of the instructor and depending on the severity and frequency of the incidents. For more information, contact the Vice President of Student Services’ Office or the Vice President of Instruction’s Office.

**Grades:**

In this class, all graded assignments are graded on a straight percentage. 90% to 100% is an A, 80% to 89% is a B, and so on. Your overall grade will be based on the sum of two mid-term exams, a comprehensive final exam, lab assignments, and quizzes. Both lecture and laboratory material will be covered on midterm exams and quizzes. Each graded area is weighted. For example, all of the lab assignments are worth 40% of your total grade in the class while quizzes account for 10% of your grade. The grade break down is illustrated in the table below. You can keep track of your grades by logging onto CANVAS from the Reedley College Homepage. I encourage you to check CANVAS daily for announcements as well as to keep track of your grade.

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| --- | --- |
| **Course Grade** **Cumulative Percent**  A 90-100  B 80-89  C 70-79  D 60-69  F < 59 | Breakdown of Grades Points  Midterm Exams X 2 20%  Final Exam 10%  Lab Assignments 40%  Species Paper 20%  Quizzes 10%  **Total 100%** |

**Accommodation Needs:**

If you have a need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (i.e., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Essential Information:**

It is your responsibility to stay informed on any changes to assignment due dates, readings, test material, etc. Missing a class doesn’t excuse you from this responsibility (i.e. if a due date for an assignment changes, new assignments are given, etc.). This means you should ask a trustworthy classmate for notes if you are absent. Being absent is not an excuse for late work, late assignments, or just not knowing what is happening. Check CANVAS often!!!

If for whatever reason you cannot complete the class this semester, make sure that you officially drop the class via WebAdvisor. If you just stop showing up for class, you may not be officially dropped and end up receiving an “F” in the class when you thought you had withdrawn. ***LAST DAY TO DROP via WebAdvisor is Sunday January 29th, 2017. Letter grade is assigned after this date.***

It is important for you to show up for class. While the lecture material is available on CANVAS, we will be discussing the material in depth during class. This is something that the power point slides alone cannot duplicate. As per college policy, I have to drop you if you miss 3 or more classes.

Cheating and/or plagiarism will not be tolerated. You will not receive credit for an assignment if, in my opinion, you have cheated. Cheating on an exam will result in an “F” on the exam and could result in dismissal from the Forestry Program. While cheating is not tolerated, I encourage you to work together on lab assignments. This makes the lab more interesting and helps you to learn the material. Even though you are working in groups, you will each be required to submit your own lab sheet unless otherwise instructed.

Please turn cell phones off during class time. Using these devices during lectures is distracting to you and to students around you as well as to me. Trying to hide your phone under the table doesn’t work either. I still see you using it. Don’t make me call you out in class.

Sunflower seeds and all tobacco products are NOT permitted in the classroom or laboratory setting. Reedley College is now a smoke free campus

**Tentative Schedule:**

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| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture Topic** | **Lab Topic** |
| 1 | 1/11/17 | Introduction | Farm Tour & Discussion |
| 2 | 1/18/17 | Neglect & Exploitation | Species Paper |
| 3 | 1/25/17 | Success in Managing Wildlife | Field Observations / Bird Identification |
| 4 | 2/1/17 | Ecosystems & Natural Communities | Point Count Techniques |
| 5 | 2/8/17 | Lab - Point Count Survey | North American Model of Conservation |
| 6 | 2/15/17 | **Midterm #1** | Mammal Identification & Survey Techniques |
| 7 | 2/22/17 | Population Ecology | Duck Boxes |
| 8 | 3/1/17 | Animal Behavior & Wildlife Management | Duck Boxes |
| 9 | 3/8/17 | Food & Cover | Remote Camera Trap Line |
|  | 3/15/17 | **Spring Break** | |
| 10 | 3/22/17 | Endangered Species Act | Radio Telemetry |
| 11 | 3/29/17 | **Midterm #2** | Habitat Work |
| 12 | 4/5/17 | Principles of Electrofishing | Electrofishing |
| 13 | 4/12/17 | Wildlife Diseases | Creel Survey / Fish Scale Collection |
| 14 | 4/19/17 | Predators & Predation | Small Mammal Population Estimates |
| 15 | 4/26/17 | Species Presentation Practice | Bird & Mammal ID Exam |
| 16 | 5/3/17 | The Ebb and Flow of Wolves & Moose | Remote Camera Results Presentation |
| 17 | 5/10/17 | End of the Line - Film | Species Presentations |
| 18 | 5/17/17 | **Final Exam - Wednesday 1000-1150** | |