NR14 – PRINCIPLES OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Course Syllabus for Spring 2019 – Section #51755

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

Lab: Monday 10:00am - 1:05pm (FEM 8)

**Instructor**: Louie M Long Jr

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

Office Hours: Tuesday 8:00am – 10:00am. Thursday 8:00am – 10:00am

 **Email**: louie.long@reedleycollege.edu

**Course Prerequisites:** None

**Drop Deadlines:**

Friday, January 25th, Last day to drop and receive a full refund.

Sunday, February 3rd, Last day to drop and avoid a “W” on WebAdvisor.

**Friday, March 8th, Last day to drop. A letter grade will be assigned after this date.**

**Final Exam:** Wednesday, May 22nd 8:00am – 9:50am (There is a conflict with my NR 12 class. We will take care of the conflict as the final date approaches)

**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.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Conduct population estimates of birds and small mammals.
2. Differentiate several wildlife management concepts and select an appropriate one when given a set of criteria.
3. Identify western mammals, birds, and fish and discuss the basic habitat requirements.
4. Safely operate wildlife equipment including traps (both live and kill) as well as sampling equipment such as the LR-20B backpack electrofisher.

**Required Textbooks:**

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.)

Lab Manual - A lab manual can be purchased at the bookstore for approximately $7.00 or you can download it from CANVAS and print it yourself. You will need to bring it to class every day.

Pocket-sized field notebook - 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.

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

**Optional books**:

Wildlife Ecology and Management, Bolen and Robinson, most recent edition.

National Audubon Society Guide to North American Mammals (Optional)

**Classroom Conduct:**

All students are expected to act in a mature manner that respects their fellow students, the instructor and any guest presenters. Please turn cellular phones and all other non-essential electric devices off during class time.

**Cheating and Plagiarism:**

Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses and will not be tolerated. Students shall comply with Board Policy 5410; each student is expected to exert an entirely honest effort toward attaining an education. Violations of this policy will result in failing grade on an assignment and/or the entire course.

**Accommodation Statement:**

“If you have a verified need for an academic accommodation or materials in alternate media (e.g.., Braille, large print, electronic text, etc.) per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please contact your instructor as soon as possible.” Arrangements must be made in advance (i.e. alternate test accommodations through DSPS).

**Reedley College Policies:**

To receive a grade for this course, students must complete all assigned work. There are NO makeup assignments for this course without prior approval. It is your responsibility to stay informed on any changes to assignment due dates, readings, 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!

**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.

This class will occur outside in an in-field laboratory setting. Always come to lab prepared for outside activities. Being prepared means sturdy hiking shoes or boot, long pants, long sleeved shirt, jacket, a lunch, and water.

**Attendance and Grading Policy:**

Field trips are designed to allow for on-site observation of watershed management techniques. Therefore, attendance and participation is mandatory. If you miss a field trip, NO participation points will be credited. Upon approval of the instructor, you may make up one excused field trip report.

Class attendance is essential for students to be successful in any course. If you miss class >3 times during the semester (without a valid reason) you may be dropped from the course.

**Tardies:**

Students are expected to be on time. It is distracting, rude and unfair to fellow classmates and to the instructor when a student is late. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor (on a break or after class) that you are present if you arrive after roll has been taken.

**Lab 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.

**Scientific Reports:**

You will be required to write approximately 5 scientific papers during the course of the semester related to labs that we complete. These reports are expected to follow the standard scientific paper format; Introduction, Methods and Materials, Results, and Conclusion/Discussion. These reports are generally due 1 to 2 weeks following the completion of the lab. We will cover this more in depth during the semester.

**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.

**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.

**Grading Policy:**

Grades in this course are based on a 10-point grading scale. Final grades may be curved based on a percentage of the highest point total in the class. Late exams will be docked 10% per day overdue. Exam and final grades will be assigned based on a straight percentage system according to the following scale:

90-100% A

80-89% B

70-79% C

60-69% D

Final grades will be based on lab assignments, quizzes, and exams. The weight of each grading component is as follows. 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 PointsMidterm Exams X 2 20%Final Exam 10%Lab Assignments 40%Scientific Reports 20%Quizzes 10% **Total 100%**  |

**Extra Credit:**

I do not give extra credit to individual students. If I make extra credit points available, they are available to all student whether you need the points or not. There is usually an extra credit question on the exams. There are also some volunteer opportunities available that I will offer 10 points extra credit for your participation. This may not sound like much but it is usually enough to bump a student one full letter grade. These opportunities include FFA competitions (Winter and Spring) and FARMS event. Sates and time to be announced.

 **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. ***See Drop Deadlines above.***

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.

Effective November 17, 2016, smoking and tobacco use shall not be permitted on any Reedley College property. Use of tobacco, smoking and/or e-cigarettes will not be permitted on any property of Reedley College; this includes: campus buildings, residential facilities, outdoor structures, athletic facilities, parking structures, parking lots, surface lots, grounds areas, any areas previously identified as designated smoking areas, and in all Reedley College owned, leased, or rented vehicles. Every student, faculty member, staff person, and visitor on campus is authorized to implement the College’s smoke free policy and regulation. For further information about Reedley College’s smoke-free policy, please see the complete policy by clicking here: https://www.reedleycollege.edu/about/about-us/policies-and-procedures/smoke-free-policy/index.html

**Tentative Schedule:**

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