**NR 14 – Wildlife Management**

Section # 55537 3 Units

Course Syllabus - Fall 2022

Lecture: Thursday 11am – 12:50pm FEM 8

Lab Thursday 1:00pm –3:50pm FEM 8

***Instructor:*** Louie M. Long Jr

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Office Hours: M 2:00-3:00, W 2:00-4:00, Other Times By Appointment

# Required Materials:

Lab Manual - We will complete a lab assignment each week unless otherwise instructed. The instructions for each lab as well as the data sheets and materials that you will submit for a grade are found in the lab manual. The NR 14 Lab Manual will be provided to you. It is your responsibility to bring it to each lab class. I will not make copies of the day’s lab if you forget to bring your lab manual.

Field Notebook – You will need a field notebook to record field observations throughout the course of the class. A 4” x 6” paperback notebook is ideal. You can buy this type of notebook just about anywhere that sells stationary. I bought one at Walmart for $0.98.

# Optional Materials:

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

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

National Audubon Society Guide to North American Mammals

# Course Description:

This course will be an examination of plant and animal ecology in relation to wildlife management. There will be a review of wildlife management techniques. Identification of wildlife species found in the western United States and the evaluation of the role of wildlife management in endangered species recovery will be learned. Field trips may be required in this course.

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion this course you will:

1. Evaluate the use of various wildlife management techniques involved in habitat modification and population estimation.
2. Evaluate the role of human's impact on wildlife management.
3. Describe ecological principles important to wildlife management.
4. Evaluate the role of wildlife management in endangered species recovery.
5. Demonstrate the basic requirements of fish and wildlife.
6. Describe the basic life history of wildlife species.
7. Use specific techniques to determine fish and wildlife abundance.
8. Identify common wildlife species found in the western United States using keys and reference books.
9. Use capture and handling tools correctly.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion this course students will:

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

# Essential Information:

You are expected to treat others as you would want to be treated yourself, even if you disagree with an expressed opinion. Please refrain from using foul language. As a student in the Forestry Program, you are preparing yourself for a professional career in the natural resource field and you are expected to conduct yourself as such at all times.

Be on time! Walking into class late is distracting. Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to make it to school, find a parking spot, and walk to class. 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!!! I recommend checking CANVAS every day and not just for this class.

If for whatever reason you cannot complete the class this semester, make sure that you officially drop the class via Self-Service. 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.

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. As per college policy, I have to drop you if you miss 3 or more classes.

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.

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.

Tobacco products are **NOT** permitted in the classroom or laboratory setting. Reedley College is a smoke free campus.

“If you have a verified 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.”

# Important Dates:

Friday, August 19 Last Day to drop Full Term class

Friday, August 26 Last day to register for Full Term class

Sunday, August 28 Last Day to drop a Full-Term class in person to avoid a “W”

Monday, September 5 No Class – Labor Day

Friday, October 7 Last day to drop FT class, letter grade after this date

Monday, October 10 Second 9-weeks classes begin

Friday, November 11 No Class – Veterans Day

Thursday/Friday, November 24-25 No Class – Thanksgiving holiday

Monday – Friday, December 5-9 Finals Week

# Modules:

You will find modules that you must complete on the Canvas page for this course. Embedded in the modules are quizzes. Modules are sequential and mandatory. Failure to complete the modules could result in an unsatisfactory grade.

**Grading Philosophy:**

The purpose of this course is to teach students the history of and basic principles involved in modern wildlife management. Historically a student’s understanding of the subject and mastery of skills has been based on traditional multiple-choice exams and quizzes, and labs that are assigned a point value. Students acquire points over the course of the semester and earn a grade based on a 100% scale. While easy to use, this type of grading system does not accurately assess a student’s understanding of the subject matter. I am not interested in how well you can take a test. I am, however, interested in how well you understand the material that we will be covering over the course of the semester.

In an effort to accurately assess your mastery of the subject matter and field protocols, we will be using a Skill Mastery Scale to determine your level of understanding. The Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) and skills that we will be learning and assessing are listed below;

**SLO1: Conduct population estimates of birds and small mammals. ​**

Skill 1.1: Demonstrate an ability to prepare for and conduct population estimates in the field.

Skill 1.2: Demonstrate an ability to estimate wildlife population sizes using the Mark & Recapture technique.

Skill 1.3: Demonstrate an ability to estimate wildlife population sizes using the Exponential Growth model.

Skill 1.4: Demonstrate an ability to estimate wildlife population sizes using the Logistic Growth model.

Skill 1.5: Properly use binoculars to conduct wildlife surveys.

Skill 1.6: Collect proper field notes while conducting wildlife surveys.

**SLO2: Differentiate several wildlife management concepts and select an appropriate one when given a set of criteria.**

Skill 2.1: Describe and identify Direct Manipulation techniques used in wildlife management.

Skill 2.2: Describe and identify Indirect Manipulation techniques used in wildlife management.

Skill 2.3: Describe and identify Preservation techniques used in wildlife management.

Skill 2.4: Implement when applicable techniques used in Direct Manipulation of wildlife populations

Skill 2.5: Implement when applicable techniques used in Indirect Manipulation of wildlife populations

**SLO3 Identify western mammals, birds, and fish and discuss the basic habitat requirements**. ​

Skill 3.1: Demonstrate an ability to identify at least the 35 birds included on the class list.

Skill 3.2: Demonstrate an ability to identify at least the 35 mammals included on the class list.

Skill 3.3: Demonstrate an ability to identify fish we discuss and/or work with in class.

**SLO4 Safely operate wildlife equipment including traps (both live and kill) as well as sampling equipment such as the LR-20B backpack electrofisher. ​**

Skill 4.1: Demonstrate an ability to properly identify, set, and check various live & kill traps used in class.

Skill 4.2: Demonstrate an ability to properly and safely assemble, program, and use the LR20B and LR24 backpack electrofishers.

Skill 4.3: Properly handle wildlife species captured during surveys (i.e. collecting biological data from fish captured during Mark & Recapture studies).

Skill 4.4: Properly operate Radio Telemetry Equipment used in wildlife studies.

Skill 4.5: Properly operate Wildlife Cameras used in wildlife studies.

Each lab assignment will reinforce a topic we’ve discussed in class and help students master one or more of the skills listed above. Each assignment will be graded using a Skill Mastery Scale that ranges from 0 – 4 where a 0 means that the student has not demonstrated any comprehension of the skill and a 4 means that the student has mastered the skill (see Table 1 below). As with anything, **practice makes improvement**. Your job is to learn the skill and demonstrate mastery. If you fail to demonstrate mastery of a skill during any of the individual labs there will be opportunities to re-do the lab or portions of the lab to get more experience and practice with the skill in order to demonstrate mastery.

We will take 1 midterm and a final exam this semester. Exams will be graded using the same Skill Mastery Scale that is used to grade lab assignments. Once again, practice makes improvement. While the exam is a test of your level of understanding, it is also an opportunity to improve your level of understanding. As such, you will be given the opportunity to re-do any exam questions that you do not answer satisfactorily. The only exception would be the final exam. Since the final exam is given during the last week of the semester, there won’t be any time available to re-do any missed questions.

**Table 1: Skill Mastery Scale used for grading in this course.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Score | Mastery Scale | | | |
| 4 | Exceptional Competence | A | 3.50 – 4.00 | 87.50% – 100% |
| 3 | Clear Competence | B | 2.75 – 3.49 | 68.75% – 87.40% |
| 2 | Adequate Competence | C | 2.00 – 2.74 | 50.00% – 68.74% |
| 1 | Basic Competence | D | 1.25 – 1.99 | 31.25% – 49.90% |
| 0 | No Evidence of Progress Towards the Learning Target | F | 0 – 1.24 | <31.25% |

**Important Note:** One of the intangible skills that you should be learning during your time in the Forestry & Natural Resources Program is initiative. **Initiative: *noun* 1. the ability to assess and initiate things independently.** It will be your responsibility to schedule re-do work. I will make time available for the re-do work but you must schedule in a timely manner the time to complete the re-do work.

# Quizzes:

You will complete multiple quizzes throughout the semester. Most of them will be embedded in the Modules that you are expected to complete thus they will be completed online as homework. You may also be asked to complete additional quizzes during the class period should I feel that they are necessary.

**Exams:**

All exams will be essay type answers. You will be asked to explain in your own words everything you know about the topic of the questions. Example: *In your own words describe the two types of germination that we discussed in class. What is the primary difference between the two?* If you miss an exam, it is your responsibility to schedule a make-up exam. 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.

**Tentative Schedule (**Subject to change)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NR 14 Wildlife Management** | | | |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Lecture Topic /Modules** | **Lab Topic** |
| 1 | 8/11/2022 | Introduction | Farm Tour & Wildlife Talk |
| 2 | 8/18/2022 | Module 1: Introduction to Wildlife Management/Assign: Scientific Report | Bird & Mammals Identification Practice |
| 3 | 8/25/2022 | Module 2: N.A. Model of Wildlife Conservation | Binoculars and Birds |
| 4 | 9/1/2022 | **Field Trip - River Walk & Bird Watching** | |
| 5 | 9/8/2022 | **NR 108 Field Studies - No Class** | |
| 6 | 9/15/2022 | Module 3: Neglect & Exploitation | **Field Trip** - Deploy Cameras @ Sequoia Lake |
| 7 | 9/22/2022 | Module 4: Success in Managing Wildlife | Collecting Biological Data from fish |
| 8 | 9/29/2022 | **Forest Conservation Days - No Class - Collect Cameras** | |
| 9 | 10/6/2022 | **Midterm #1** | **Bird & Mammal Identification Exam** |
| 10 | 10/13/2022 | Module 5: Ecosystems & Natural Communities | **Make-up Day** |
| 11 | 10/20/2022 | **NR 109 Field Studies - No Class** | |
| 12 | 10/27/2022 | Module 6: Population Ecology | Mark & Recapture - Day #1 |
| 13 | 11/3/2022 | Module 7: Wolves & Moose of Isle Royale | Mark & Recapture - Day #2 |
| 14 | 11/10/2022 | Module 8: Techniques in Radio Telemetry | Radio Telemetry Practical Application |
| 15 | 11/17/2022 | Module 9: Techniques in Electrofishing | Electrofishing Practical Application |
| 16 | 11/24/2022 | **Thanksgiving - No Class** | |
| 17 | 12/1/2022 | Review for Final Exam | **Make-up Day** |
| 18 | 12/8/2022 | **Final Exam 11:00am - 12:50pm** | **No Lab** |

**COVID19 and the Spring Semester:**

**Attendance Policies (***From the RC website regarding COVID protocols*)

Dear Students:

We are pleased to be able to simplify the vaccine mandate as the impact of COVID-19 continues to decline in our community. We will continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic and adjust as needed.

The following changes are being made to the COVID-19 vaccine mandate requirements effective immediately.

**All students can now take in-person classes (and access in-person services) if they meet ONE of the following:**

* 1. Upload proof of COVID-19 vaccine [**(See instructions to upload)**](https://www.scccd.edu/lp/coronavirus/covid-vaccine-mandate-site.html) OR
* 2. Test for COVID-19 twice a week (not on consecutive days) at the approved SCCCD testing sites.

Testing is performed through a saliva test NOT a nasal test. Medical or religious exemption requests are no longer required.

**Masks are "highly recommended" and optional.** However, they continue to be required in health services and child development service areas on campus.

We will continue to offer quality online instruction and services.

**COVID-19 Testing Site Locations:**

**Reedley College**

* Tent outside of gymnasium
* M-Th 9 am-6 pm

Please note: No appointment is necessary. No food or drink is allowed one (1) hour prior to testing.

More information can be found at the [**SCCCD COVID-19 mandate webpage.**](https://www.scccd.edu/lp/coronavirus/scccd-vaccine-requirement-faqs.html) We look forward to seeing many of you on campus!

Students should evaluate their own health daily and must complete the online health screening available daily: <https://scccd.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3IO880HybZg7ajX>

If they have any of the following symptoms, they should not attend class. Students are encouraged to contact the nurse or healthcare provider for further guidance. Common COVID-19 symptoms include, but are not limited to:

* cough
* sore throat
* shortness of breath
* runny nose (not due to seasonal allergies)
* fever (100.4 degrees or more)
* and/or chills

Students should also not attend class if they have had close contact with anyone who has had these symptoms in the last 14 days.