

Syllabus for Wildlife Management

Bio 3374: Fall 2009

www.wtamu.edu/~rmatlack/bio3374.htm

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Lecture: TTh 7:30-8:45, ANS 320

Office Hours: T, Th 12:00-1:00, W 10:00-11:00. I would be happy to schedule an appointment to meet with you at anytime I am available. You may schedule an appointment to meet with me via email or phone. I check my email and voice mail several times each day and will promptly reply to your messages.

Text Books: *Wildlife Ecology and Management*, 5th Ed., E. G. Bolen and W. L. Robinson.

Course Content: This course will provide students with an understanding of the science and theory of managing wildlife and habitats beginning with the fundamental needs of wildlife. The following topics will be examined: Use of natural and anthropogenic habitats by wildlife including grasslands, agricultural lands, urban environments, wetlands, and forests, direct and indirect management of wildlife including habitat management and the use of hunting and trapping to manage wildlife, exotic species and their impact on native species, the economics of wildlife and consumptive and non-consumptive uses of wildlife, and current threats to the conservation of wildlife and habitats.

Course Objectives:

1. Improve the ability of students to read and understand scientific literature
2. Develop an understand of the basic needs of all species of wildlife
3. Examine the application of theory to manage wildlife and habitats
4. Further the student's understanding of wildlife ecology
5. Develop the student's ability to think critically.

Class Policies:

Attendance - I cannot imagine that you will find it possible to master this material without regular class attendance. Regardless of whether you are in class or not, however, you are responsible for everything which is discussed in lecture, any announcements made in class, everything which is assigned as class reading, and any handouts which are given in class. If you miss class, you must make your own arrangements for access to class notes or handouts from classes that you miss. I will not provide copies of my class notes except under very rare circumstances (serious injury, surgery, etc.) and by PRIOR arrangement only.

Grading – Your final grade will be based on your performance on 3 exams (2, 150-point lecture exams and a 150-point final exam), a group presentation, a careers/c.v. assignment, 5 abstracts and 2 article reviews. The final exam will not be cumulative. Extra credit will not be given.

Grade scale: A= 90-100%
 B= 80-89%
 C= 70-79%
 D= 60-69%
 F= 0-59%

Tentative Exam Dates:

Exam 1 THU, 17 September
 Exam 2 TUE, 20 October
 Final Exam **8:00 am**, TUE, 8 December

	<u>Points</u>	<u>Total</u>
Exams	150 pts each	450
Group presentation	100 pts	100
Careers/cv	50 pts	50
Abstracts	10 pts each	50
Reviews	25 pts each	<u>50</u>
		700

Makeup exams – All exams must be taken at the times announced in class or in the syllabus. Make up exams will be possible only with a doctor’s letter or letter of absence for a school-sponsored event. If you have a serious reason for missing an exam, you must contact me **BEFORE** the scheduled exam period to notify me that you cannot take the exam (again, written documentation is required). You are then responsible for arranging with me to make up the test or quiz within two days of your return to campus.

Note: Exams are subject to change and I reserve the right to change any and all information contained in the syllabus.

Academic dishonesty - If you are uncertain about what constitutes academic dishonesty, please read the appropriate sections in the Code of Student Life (see additional information at the end of this syllabus). I will have zero tolerance for academic dishonesty. Instances of dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent possible, including the receipt of a failing grade for the course. Take care to avoid the appearance of cheating! During exams keep your eyes on your own paper, keep books and bags closed, and put all paper away. **NOTE: All writing assignments, whether original writing or a summary of the work of others, must be written in your own words!**

Course content:

<u>Chapter(s)</u>	<u>Topics</u>
None	Habitat and habitat management
Ch17	Urban wildlife
Ch 14	Wildlife and rangelands
Ch 13	Wildlife and farmlands
Ch 11	Wildlife and water
Ch 10	Hunting and trapping
None	Wildlife harvest
Ch 18	Exotic wildlife
Ch 20	Economics of wildlife

Ch 21	Conservation biology and wildlife management
Ch 15	Forest management and wildlife
Ch 16	Wildlife in parks and refuges

Assignment Due Dates:

NOTE: Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date listed below or provided in class. If you are late for class your assignment is late and you will have points deducted or be otherwise (see specific assignments and test make up information) penalized.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
10 September	Abstract 1
24 September	Abstract 2
1 October	Abstract 3
8 October	Abstract 4
15 October	Abstract 5
29 October	Career/ c.v. assignment
5 November	Review 1
12 November	Review 2
19 November	Presentations
24 November	Presentations
28 November	Presentations

Students with Disabilities:

WTAMU seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with Disability Support Services and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodations.

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Safety:

Safety is everyone's responsibility. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) are provided for all chemicals used in this class. MSDSs provide information about physical properties, health risks, fire and explosion data, and other important information associated with these chemicals. Before handling or using a chemical, you should refer to the MSDS for that chemical. It is your responsibility to inform the instructor in writing of any health conditions that may prevent you from safely using a chemical (pregnancy, auto immune deficiency, etc.). It is also the responsibility of the student to report any spills or problems found while storing or using a chemical. If you are unsure about a chemical, always ask. If you see any unsafe condition, notify your instructor immediately. If you are unsure about the proper and safe operation of any piece of equipment, ask your instructor for proper instruction. All injuries, spills of materials and unsafe conditions must be reported to the instructor immediately.

Evacuation:

When you receive notice to evacuate the building, please evacuate promptly but in an orderly manner. Evacuation routes are posted in various locations indicating all exits, outside assembly area, location of fire extinguishers, fire alarm pull stations, and emergency telephone numbers (651-5000 or 911). In the event an evacuation is necessary, evacuate immediately; do not use elevators; take all personal belongings with you; report to outside assembly area and wait for further information; students needing assistance in the evacuation process should bring this to the attention of the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Scholastic Dishonesty:

It is the responsibility of students and instructors to help maintain scholastic integrity at the University by refusing to participate in or tolerate scholastic dishonesty. Commission of any of the following acts shall constitute scholastic dishonesty. This listing is not exclusive of any other acts that may reasonably be said to constitute scholastic dishonesty: acquiring or providing information for any assigned work or examination from any unauthorized source; informing any person or persons of the contents of any examination prior to the time the examination is given in subsequent sections of the course or as a makeup; plagiarism, submission of a paper or project that is substantially the same for two courses unless expressly authorized by the instructor to do so. (2009-2010, CODE OF STUDENT LIFE, Rules and Procedures for Students, West Texas A&M University).

A complete statement regarding scholastic dishonesty can be found in the Student Code of Life at <http://www.wtamu.edu/administrative/ss/code/code.html#procedures>.