

Department Name and Number _____

Recommended SCNS Course Identification

Prefix ____ Level ____ Course Number ____ Lab Code ____

Course Title (please limit to 21 characters) _____

Effective Term and Year _____ Rotating Topic yes no

Amount of Credit ____ Contact Hour: Base ____ or Headcount ____ S/U Only yes no

Repeatable Credit yes no If yes, ____ total repeatable credit allowed

Variable Credit yes no If yes, ____ minimum and ____ maximum credits per semester

Course Description (50 words or less)

Prerequisites	Co-requisites
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Degree Type (mark all that apply) Baccalaureate Graduate Professional Other _____

Category of Instruction Introductory Intermediate Advanced

Rationale and place in curriculum

Department Contact	Name	Phone	Email
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College Contact	Name	Phone	Email
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Syllabus for ZOO4XXXC Vertebrate Biodiversity

Lecture times: TBA (3 periods per week)

Lab times: TBA (3 periods per week)

Lecture Instructor: TBA

Email: jaholliday@ufl.edu

Phone: 352.392.1187

Lab TA: TBA

I. Course Description:

Comparative biology of vertebrates, emphasizing morphology, evolution, ecology, and behavior.

Laboratory will include field trips.

Prereq: BSC 2011 and 2011L, or equivalent, with minimum grades of C.

II. Textbook and other materials:

Pough, Vertebrate Life, 8th edition, Benjamin Cummings (September 15, 2008). ISBN-10: 0321545761; ISBN-13: 978-0321545763

Lab manual, available at Target Copy

III. Credit Hours: 4

IV. Course Objectives:

This course explores the diversity, adaptations, and ecology of vertebrates. The lectures and labs are coordinated as much as possible so that laboratory work expands upon information provided through lecture and reinforces an understanding of diversity and adaptation.

V. Policies and requirements:

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all scheduled lectures and laboratory sessions. This course covers a great deal of material; absences/excessive tardiness should be avoided as you may find yourself hopelessly behind. If a student is unable to attend a scheduled class or laboratory due to an excused absence, that student **MUST** notify the instructor in advance or as soon as possible after the missed class so we can arrange for you to make up any work missed work or examination. The student is responsible to scheduling any make-up examination with the instructor. Students who miss an examination *without* a valid excuse (e.g. without a doctor's note in the case of an illness), and who request to take an exam late, will automatically have 20 pts deducted from their 1st late exam, 30 points deducted from their 2nd late exam, and 40 points from their third late exam. (In other words, don't call in "sick" because you want more time to study.) I

will take roll and/or give unannounced quizzes during class. Attendance and preparation will be taken into account when determining your overall grade.

Classroom behavior: Behave with courtesy towards your fellow students and the instructor. Avoid talking during lecture time as it is highly disruptive to other students. Cell phones should be turned off before coming to class. Any student who persists in interrupting the class or who acts aggressively/disrespectfully may be asked to leave.

Grammar: Correct grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization and paragraphing should be incorporated in exams as well as any typed reports. **Spelling and Grammar will be graded.**

Examinations: Any material covered during the lecture period *or assigned in your reading may be included in the examinations.* This may include textbook illustrations, films, or lecture material. Lecture tests will consist of 50-100 questions including multiple choice, T/F, short answer, and essay. **Quizzes may be given at any time, without notice.** Extra credit (maximum 5% of total points) is offered in a variety of formats.

Incomplete (“I”): If a student has satisfactorily completed all but the last assignment or examination and DOCUMENTED circumstances prevent completion of the course in the time allotted, the student may, with the agreement of the instructor, be assigned an “incomplete” (I) pending completion of the missed work. All incompletes MUST be resolved by the end of the following term or the student will receive a grade of “E” (failing).

VI. Drop/Add/Withdrawal:

A student can drop/add during the drop add period with no penalty. After drop/add, a student who drops will receive a W until the date listed in the academic calendar. After that date, the student may be assigned an “E” (fail). **Note: it is the responsibility of the STUDENT to withdraw from a course, not the instructor. Failure to attend class is NOT an automatic drop.**

VII. Honesty Policy:

All students registered at the University of Florida have agreed to comply with the following statement: “I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

In addition, on all work submitted for credit the following pledge is either required or implied: “*On my honor I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.*”

If you witness any instances of academic dishonesty in this class, please notify the instructor or contact the Student Honor Court (392-1631) or Cheating Hotline (392-

6999). For additional information on Academic Honesty, please refer to the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>.

VIII. Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:

Students who will require a classroom accommodation for a disability must contact the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources, in Peabody 202 (phone: 352-392-1261). Please see the University of Florida Disability Resources website for more information at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/services/>.

It is the policy of the University of Florida that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed. Once notification is complete, the Dean of Students Office of Disability Resources will work with the instructor to accommodate the student.

IX. Software Use:

All faculty, staff and student of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

X. UF Counseling Services:

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. The resources include:

UF Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575, psychological and psychiatric services.

Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career and job search services.

Many students experience test anxiety and other stress related problems. "A Self Help Guide for Students" is available through the Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575) and at their web site: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>.

XI. Course assignments and grading policies:**Grades**

Graded Item	Date	Time/Place	Total Points	Percent
Lecture exam 1	Jan 27	In class	100	10
Lecture exam 2	Feb 15	In class	100	10
Lecture exam 3	March 2	In class	100	10
Lecture exam 4	March 30	In class	100	10
Final exam	TBD	See sched.	100	10
Research/written assignments	syllabus	on-line	100	10
Lab worksheets/activities (10-15 pts)		In class	120	12
Lab quizzes (20 pts)		In class	80	8
Lab exams (100 pts)		In class	200	20
Total			1000	100

Grades: Grading Scale	Point Range (%)	Letter Grade	GPA equivalent
≥ 90.00		A	4.0
86.7 – 89.9		A-	3.67
83.3 – 86.6		B+	3.33
80.0 – 83.2		B	3.0
76.7 – 79.9		B-	2.67
73.3 – 76.6		C+	2.33
70.0 – 73.2		C	2.0
66.7 – 69.9		C-	1.67
63.3 – 66.6		D+	1.33
60.0 – 63.2		D	1.0
56.7 – 59.9		D-	0.67
< 56.7		E	0

Note that a “C-“ will not be a qualifying grade for critical tracking courses. In order to graduate, students must have an overall GPA and an upper-division GPA of 2.0 or better (C or better). Note: a C- average is equivalent to a GPA of 1.67, and therefore, it does not satisfy this graduation requirement. For more information on grades and grading policies, please visit: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

XII. Lecture Schedule

Day/Date	Chapter	Topic
Monday Jan 9	2	What is a vertebrate? Vertebrate design Classification and phylogeny of vertebrates.
Wednesday Jan 11	1, 2 (+ on-line/homework assignment)	Phylogenetic systematics: how to read a tree
Friday Jan 13	2	What is a vertebrate? Organ systems (overview)
Monday Jan 16	Holiday NO CLASSES	
Wednesday Jan 18	2	What is a vertebrate? Organ systems (overview)
Friday Jan 20	3	Jawless vs. jawed fishes; appearance of the gnathostomes
Monday Jan 23	4	Living in water
Wed Jan 25	(+ on-line/homework assignment)	Mapping and protecting biodiversity
Friday Jan 27	Exam 1 (mixed in-class and take-home)	
Monday Jan 30	5	Chondrichthyes: diversity, reproduction, human impacts and conservaton
Wed Feb 1	5	Chondrichthyes: diversity, reproduction, human impacts and conservation
Friday Feb 3	6	Osteichthyes: diversity, locomotion, reproduction, human impacts and conservation
Monday Feb 6	6 (+ on-line/homework assignment: pollution, habitat loss, over-exploitation and overfishing)	Osteichthyes: diversity, locomotion, reproduction, human impacts and conservation
Wednesday Feb 8	9	Tetrapoda: living on land
Friday Feb 10	10	Amphibians: diversity and taxonomy
Monday Feb 13	10	Amphibians: Gas exchange, metamorphosis, defense, conservation
Wednesday Feb 15	Exam 2 (mixed in-class and take-home)	
Friday Feb 17	11	Sauropsids vs. synapsids: key differences in anatomy, reproduction and thermoregulation

Monday Feb 20	11	Sauropsids: diversity and synapomorphies
Wed Feb 22	12	Turtles are from Mars (evolution, anatomy, reproduction, habitat, adaptations, conservation)
Friday Feb 24	13(+ on-line/homework assignment: habitat loss, exotic species)	Lepidosaur (tuatara, lizards and snakes)
Monday Feb 27	13	Squamates (lizards and snakes) diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, human impacts
Wed Feb 29	13	Squamates (lizards and snakes) diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, human impacts
Friday March 2	Exam 3(mixed in-class and take-home)	
Monday Mar 12	16.1-16.3	Mesozoic Diapsids: What is a diapsid? Diversity and phylogeny of archosaurs
Wed Mar 14	16	Archosaurs: ancient swimmers and flyers.
Friday Mar 16	16	Archosauria: Crocodylians: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Monday Mar 19	16	Archosauria: saurischians
Wed Mar 21	16 (+ on-line/homework assignment: extinction and climate change)	Archosauria: ornithischians
Friday Mar 23	17	Theropods to Aves: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Monday Mar 26	17	Aves: Paleognaths and Neognaths: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Wed Mar 28	17	Aves: Neognaths: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Friday Mar 30	Exam 4 (mixed in-class and take-home)	
Monday April 2	20, 21	Synapsid diversification and evolution of the jaw and middle ear

Wed April 4	20, 21(+ on-line/ homework assignment: habitat fragmentation, destruction and human effects)	Mammals: Prototherians, Metatherians: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Friday April 6	21	Mammals: Prototherians, Metatherians: diversity, anatomy, feeding, reproduction, social behavior, conservation
Monday April 9	(+ on-line/homework assignment)	Endangered species act, frozen zoos, captive breeding, reintroductions
Wednesday April 11	21	Placentals I: Diversity and habitats
Friday April 13	21	Placentals II: Anatomy
Monday April 16	21	Placentals III: Feeding and reproduction
Wednesday April 18	21	Placentals IV: Social behaviors
Friday April 20	24, 25	Origins and diversity of primates
Monday April 23	24, 25	Origins and diversity of hominids
Wednesday April 25	Review/Catch-up	
Final Exam (during final exam period)		TBD

XII. Lab Schedule

LAB	Day/Date
No labs	Tuesday, January 10, Thursday January 12
Lab 1, Activities 1 (cladistics), 2 (evolutionary thinking); worksheets	Tuesday, January 17 Thursday, January 19
Lab 2, Gnathostomes activity 4 (perch dissection); worksheets	Tuesday, January 24 Thursday January 26
Quiz 1 (Labs 1 and 2) Lab 3: Jawed fish diversity (worksheets/matrix in lab)	Tuesday January 31 Thursday, Feb 2
Fish trapping field trip	Tuesday February 7 Thursday February 9
Quiz 2 (Lab 3, fish diversity) Lab 4: amphibian form, function, diversity, Activity 6 dissection frog, salamander; worksheets	Tuesday February 14 Thursday February 16
Lab 5: turtle form, function, diversity; worksheets	Tuesday February 21 Thursday February 23
Lab Exam (100 pts) Thursday Evening times TBD	Thursday Mar 1
SPRING BREAK	Tuesday March 6 Thursday March 8
Lab 6 Lepidosaur form, function, diversity, snake dissection (optional); worksheets	Tuesday March 13 Thursday March 15
Quiz 3 (Lab 6) Lab 7 Archosaur form and function, bird anatomy; worksheet	Tuesday March 20 Thursday March 22
Lab 8 Archosaur diversity; worksheets	Tuesday March 27 Thursday March 29
Quiz 4 (Labs 7 and 8) Bird field trip	Tuesday April 3 Thursday April 5
Mammal form, function, anatomy, diversity, worksheet	Tuesday April 10 Thursday April 12
Lab Finals (100 pts)	Thursday April 19

Course Overview

To facilitate review of your course proposal, please provide the following information:

Prefix: ___ ___ ___ Number: ___ ___ ___ Title: _____

Catalog Course Description: *maximum of 500 characters (including spaces), must match description provided in the UCC1 form. Aim for a style commensurate with other descriptions in the catalog.*

Place in the Curriculum: *(What is the role of this course in overall program? Will it satisfy requirements for a major or minor? Is it intended primarily for major or minor? Is it replacing a course, or a response to a change in major or minor requirements?)*

Meets a total of _____ hours each week for the duration of the semester. (If not for entire semester, please explain)

Grading weights: (what percentage of the grade comes from each exam, report, presentation, and so on; whatever elements constitute the final course grade)

___ % of the final grade comes from _____ (requirement)

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___ % of the final grade comes from _____ (requirement)

___ % of the final grade comes from _____ (requirement)

Texts required (if any) including authors, title, year, publisher:

List of topics

Week	Topic
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	

All UCC1 forms and each UCC2 form that proposes a change in the course description or credit hours must include this checklist in addition to a complete syllabus. Check the box if the attached syllabus includes the indicated information.

Syllabus MUST contain the following information:

- Instructor contact information (and TA if applicable)
- Course objectives and/or goals
- A topical outline (at least tentative) of subjects to be covered
- Required and recommended textbooks
- Methods by which students will be evaluated and their grades determined
- Policy related to class attendance
- Policy related to make-up exams or other work
- Statement related to accommodations for students with disabilities
- Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points

It is recommended that syllabi contain the following information:

1. Critical dates for exams and other work
2. Class demeanor expected by the professor (e.g., tardiness, cell phone usage)
3. UF's honesty policy
4. Contact information for university counseling and mental health services

The University's complete Syllabus Policy can be found at:

<http://www.aa.ufl.edu/policy/SyllabiPolicy.pdf>

External Consultation Results (departments with potential overlap or interest in proposed course, if any)

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	