WF 4153/6153
PRINCIPLES OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT
COURSE SYLLABUS-FALL 2007

Instructor: Raymond B. Iglay
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Office Hours: Appointment Only
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Lecture Time: Monday/Wednesday 11:00-11:50 a.m. 208a Thompson Hall
Laboratory Time: Section 02 Tues. 2:00-5:50 p.m. 208a Thompson Hall
Section 03 Mon. 1:00-4:50 p.m. 220a Thompson Hall

Teaching Assistant: Stephen Webb

Credit Hours: 3 semester hours

Course Objectives: This course is designed to help prepare you as a conservation professional in the field of wildlife ecology. The intent is to bridge the gap between your academic experiences and your advances into the wildlife profession. The course will integrate areas of natural resource management within an intellectual and philosophical framework based on the origins of wildlife management, field ecology, habitat requirements for specific species, and habitat classification. Furthermore, the course will empower you with knowledge applicable to the management of any wildlife species. Specific objectives include:

1. To instill an appreciation for the values and ecological function of wildlife species, populations, communities, and ecosystems.

2. To provide an intellectual, philosophical, and ethical foundation to develop a personal and societal conservation ethic.

3. To relate biological concepts and ecological principles to the management of natural resources, habitats, and wildlife populations.

4. To encourage your professional development through problem solving, critical thinking, and application of your education.

5. To make you a better field ecologist through applying wildlife management to the conservation of central Mississippi's diverse flora and faunal communities.

Work Expectation: I expect an effort from you equivalent to an upper level, 3-credit science course. As with any course, I expect you to engage in a minimum of 3 out-of-class hours of work for every credit each week (9 hours/week).

Required Text:

Bolen, E.G. and W.L. Robinson. 2003. Wildlife Ecology and Management. 5th edition. Prentice Hall. Upper Saddle River, NJ. ISBN 0-13-840422-4

Supplementary Reading and Recommended Texts: In addition to our required text, I will periodically provide supplementary reading material and references to other texts. Lecture material may also be taken from:

Yarrow, G.K., and D.T. Yarrow. 1999. Managing Wildlife. Sweetwater Press, Clemson University and Alabama Wildlife Federation.

For your plant collection, you may find other texts useful for identification and natural history such as:

Miller, J.H. and K.V. Miller. 1999. Forest Plants of the Southeast and their Wildlife Uses. Southern Weed Society. Craftsman Printers Inc. Auburn, Alabama. 454pp.

Readings: All readings (at least skimming) should be completed before each class. Readings are meant as a supplement to lecture. The readings may provide additional details to the lecture material or a different viewpoint. By completing readings prior to class, you will be able to better understand lecture, comprehend lecture material, and ask clarifying questions. You will be tested on material found in readings but not in class. Students who read assigned materials will do better in class and be more prepared for lectures and exams. In addition, I notice those who do not complete readings, are unprepared for class, and do not participate in class. I use this information to decide if individuals with borderline grades should be elevated to the next grade level.

Academic Dishonesty and Conduct: I expect you to abide by all rules governed by the university in terms of academic integrity. All work handed in and exams taken are to be completed by the individual. No work in this class is deemed group work and hence, should be completed separately. Any violations of honesty should be reported to Mr. Iglay or the Department Head, Dr. Bruce Leopold. You are expected to treat your fellow classmates and their ideas and opinions with respect. Additionally, when I am lecturing or answering questions you are expected to pay attention, be quiet and direct questions to me, not your fellow classmates.

During class and lab periods, all cell phones and/or pagers are to be in the OFF position. In addition, students are to abide by Thompson Hall rules of NO TOBACCO PRODUCTS in the building. Students acting contrary to any of these expectations will be asked to leave immediately.

I will not tolerate any disruptive, rude, or abrasive behavior to fellow classmates or myself.

Attendance: Attendance for this class is mandatory and essential for success. Test content will primarily come from classroom lectures and discussions. By now, you should have developed a professional work ethic which mandates your commitments and provides reason for taking advantage of every learning opportunity. Attendance will be taken randomly and considered for individuals with borderline grades to be elevated to the next grade. You must make it to every lecture and lab to succeed in this class. There will be no make-up lectures or labs due to failed attendance.

Plant Collection: To aid in your transition to the professional world and as a helpful reference, you will prepare a plant collection of dried and mounted specimens. We will collect specimens during field trips throughout the early part of the semester. You will be provided with a list of plant genera that should be included in your collection. I will help with plant id, but you will also benefit from using dichotomous keys, websites, and other literature (e.g. recommended text).

Plant collections will consist of at least 50 plants from terrestrial and aquatic habitats mounted on provided format sheets. All plants must be accompanied by the following information: date and habitat of collection, genus, species, family, location collected, and wildlife/fish use. Grading will be based on number of plants (1 pt/plant) and specimen quality and information (1pt/plant). Additional details regarding the plant collections will be discussed in labs including collecting, pressing, drying, and mounting specimens.

Exams: Exams will be composed of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Material for lecture exams will come from lectures, discussions, and supplemental readings. The Plant Test will cover plant identification and field trip material. Make-up exams will only be given if you have an emergency or illness. Please call me (325-3498, leave a message) **before the exam** and leave me a number where you can be reached. You must also send me an e-mail by the end of the day. Proof of emergency or illness may be requested. I reserve the right not to accept delayed excuses or self-inflicted illnesses. Make-up exams **will not** be the same as in-class exams. They will be all essay. Exams will be graded and returned as quickly as possible. Students may contest grading of individual questions but must due so within one week of exam return. I reserve the right to not accept delayed or incomplete responses. You must clearly state why you think your provided answer is correct and if applicable, provide supporting documentation. Due to the variability in providing sufficient plant samples, a make-up plant test is not available.

Grading:

Undergraduates		**Graduates**	
Assignment	**Total Points**	**Assignment**	**Total Points**
2 Lecture Exams (100pts each)	200	2 Lecture Exams (100pts each)	200
Comprehensive Final Exam	200	Comprehensive Final Exam	200
Plant Collection	100	Plant Collection	150
Plant Test	100	Plant Test	100
Total Points Possible	600	WF 6153 Project	200
		Total Points Possible	850

Grades:

A	93-100%	B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D+	67-69%
A-	90-92%	B	83-86%	C	73-76%	D	63-66%
		B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%	D-	60-62%
						F	< 60%

If you receive < 70% on any exams, please schedule an appointment with me so we can discuss ways to improve study skills, note taking, and class performance. Extra credit is not available in this course.

Assignment Due Dates:

Lecture:		**Laboratory:**	
September 26	Exam 1	October 8 & 9	Plant Test
October 31	Exam 2	October 19	Plant Collection
October 26	Habitat Requirements		
December ?	Final Exam		

Disclaimer: Due to the possibility of unforeseen circumstances, I reserve the right to make any changes to the schedule, policies, and procedures mentioned in this syllabus. However, I will not add any additional requirements. Changes will be announced in class, and it is your responsibility for knowing them.

Proposed 2007 WF 4153/6152 Lecture Schedule:

Date	Instructor	Lecture Topic	Assigned Reading
Aug. 20	Iglay	Syllabus Overview and Introduction Brief History of Wildlife Management	Syllabus, Bolen and Robinson Ch. 1-3
Aug. 22	Iglay	Wildlife Management in the 21st Century	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 1-3
Aug. 27	Iglay	Wildlife Management and The Public	No Reading
Aug. 29	Iglay	Wildlife Law and Policy	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 22
Sept. 5	Tegt	Ecosystems and Natural Communities	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 4
Sept. 10	Iglay	Individuals and Populations	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 5
Sept. 12	Iglay	Population Ecology	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 5
Sept. 17	Iglay	Population Dynamics	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 5
Sept. 19	Riffell	Managing Harvested Populations	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 10
Sept. 24	Riffell	Managing Harvested Populations	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 10
Sept. 26		Exam 1	Good Luck!!!
Oct. 1		No class	Fall break!
Oct. 3	Iglay	Animal Behavior and Wildlife Management	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 6
Oct. 8	Iglay	Limiting Factors on Wildlife Populations	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 7
Oct. 10	Iglay	Edaphic Factors and Habitat Management	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 12
Oct. 15	Iglay	Habitat Management	Yarrow & Yarrow Ch.1, Appendix L, and website notes
Oct. 17	Iglay	Forest Management and Wildlife	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 15
Oct. 22	Riffell	Landscape Ecology	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 16-17
Oct. 24	Riffell	Landscape Ecology	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 16-17
Oct. 29	Iglay	Predation, parasites, and pathogens	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 8-9
Oct. 31	Iglay	Exam 2	Good Luck!!!
Nov. 5	Burger	Government Incentive Programs (CRP, etc.)	Additional Readings
Nov. 7	Iglay	Conservation Biology and Wildlife Management	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 21
Nov. 12	Iglay	Non-game and Endangered Species	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 19
Nov. 14	Iglay	Exotic Wildlife and other management settings	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 13-18
Nov. 19	Iglay	Economics of Wildlife	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 20
Nov. 21		No class	Thanksgiving Break!
Nov. 26	Iglay	Wildlife as Public Trust, Dangers of Privatization	Bolen and Robinson Ch. 22
Nov. 28	Scott Edwards, MDWFP	Wildlife Management by MDWFP	
Dec. ?		Final Exam	Good Luck!!!

Proposed 2007 WF4153/6153 Lab Schedule:

Date	Lab Topic	Prepare for. . .
Aug. 20,21	Lab overview, plant collection materials and how-to, outlook for semester	Receiving notes, taking notes, and discovering what lab is all about.
Aug. 27,28	Plant Collecting Week 1	Wear comfortable field clothes (boots, knee-high boots may help, insect repellent), bring Ziploc bags (~30), and trash bag, binders, note taking material
Sept. 10,11	Plant Collecting Week 2	Wear comfortable field clothes (boots, insect repellent), bring Ziploc bags (~30), and trash bag, binders, note taking material
Sept. 17,18	Population Ecology and the Wildlife Manager	Inside lab
Sept. 24,25	Harvest Management Exercise	Inside lab
Oct. 1,2	**No lab**	Fall Break
Oct. 8,9	**PLANT TEST**	Good Luck!!!
Oct. 15,16	Habitat Management Techniques/Approaches	Inside Lab. There will be time for help on plant collections.
Oct. 22,23	Habitat Requirements	Yarrow/Yarrow Ch. 2-4 & 17 Information from plant Collections Information discussed in class
Oct. 29,30	Habitat Management in Action	Wear Comfortable field clothes and bring note taking materials (cameras may also help learning)
Nov. 5,6	Landscape Ecology	Inside Lab
Nov. 12,13	Putting It All Together	Lab Wrap up, Scenarios, and Examples
Nov. 19,20	No Lab	Enjoy the turkey!!
Nov. 26,27	Class and Final Review, Q & A, Evaluations	Inside Lab

Outline for 2007 WF 6153 Requirements

WF 6153 Plant Collection:

All students enrolled in WF 6153 will be required to collect an additional 25 plants for their collection. Grading of plant specimens will follow the same regime as the WF 4153 collection described above.

WF 6153 Project:

In addition to already mentioned requirements, students in the WF 6153 will have an additional project of their choosing that enhances their understanding of wildlife conservation and management through applying what they have learned. We will discuss project options the first week of class.

Project Ideas:

Applied Plant Collection:

The Applied Plant Collection is an opportunity for graduate students to create a plant collection that does not only get them the grade but also can be used more extensively in future careers. The plant collection will follow the same will be required to have an additional 25 plants for their Plant Collection plus additional information for all specimens will be required including importance/use to the student's area of study.

Noxubee Management Project

Noxubee Refuge is home to a myriad of wildlife and wildlife habitats. Each year, Noxubee implements management programs for habitat management and animal management for the success of hunters, aesthetic views, and recreational use of the refuge.

Based on what you have learned in WF6153, review and report on current wildlife management at Noxubee Refuge for game species. Discuss goals and techniques of this management and how they apply to the game species. Then, describe how this current management can lead to the conservation of other species, namely non-game species in the long-term outlook of preserving Noxubee refuge's Biodiversity.

Wildlife Conservation/Management and My Thesis

As a graduate student, one of your duties is to write a thesis based on your research or expand your knowledge of your subject through education and application. In addition to learning new topics and fields of study related to your interest, you cover why your subject is important, how your research was conducted, results from the research, and its implementation and application to your field or species of interest.

With the focus based on your major, education or thesis research, explain what role your field will play in wildlife conservation and management, how it is applicable, and how you foresee it enhancing your career performance.