

Ag 336 Wildlife Management II

Course Syllabus: Spring, 2015

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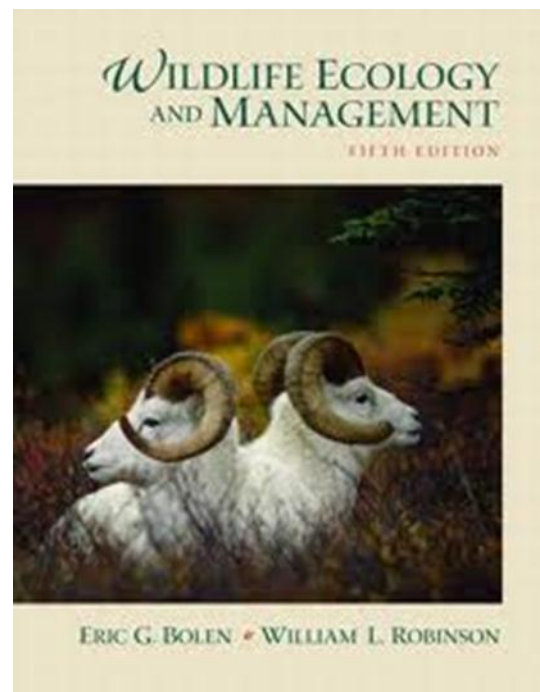
Email: Jeff.Kopachena@tamuc.edu

Office hours: MW 10:00 - 11:00 T 1:00 - 2:00

Course Information:

Course Textbook (Required):

Bolin, E.G. and Robinson, W.L. 2003.
Wildlife Ecology and Management, 5th Edition.
Prentice Hall, New Jersey,



Course Description:

This course is designed to complement Wildlife Management I. As such it provides an introduction to the many dimensions of wildlife and conservation science. Topics covered include the relationships between wildlife and water, soils, farmlands, rangelands, forests, parks and refuges. Later sections cover urban wildlife, exotic wildlife, wildlife economics and wildlife conservation

Student Learning Objectives measured using entrance/exit test:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between wildlife abundance and distribution relative to the nature and distribution of water and soils.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the effects of farm, range, and forest management on wildlife abundance and distribution.
3. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the various purposes of parks and refuges.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the impacts of exotic species and the ways in which species adapt to urban environments.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of wildlife economics.

Grading and Course Content

A textbook is mandatory. You will be required to read each of the assigned chapters. In addition, in the **Doc Sharing** tab in **eCollege**, you are provided with a **PowerPoint** slide presentation based on the required chapter. However, there is frequently material in the PowerPoint slides that is not in the textbook and vice versa. You will be responsible for material in both the PowerPoint slides and in the textbook.

This is not a self-paced course. You must complete all tests and assignments on the date they are due.

For each chapter there will be a quiz based on material in the textbook and in the PowerPoint slides. The quiz will be composed of 10 multiple choice questions and will be timed. You have 20 minutes to complete the quiz. You will be able to take your quiz any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your quiz long enough before midnight to ensure that the quiz does not time out on you before you are done with it.

There will be two subterm tests, each based on multiple chapters and also including material from both the textbook and the PowerPoint slides. These tests will consist of 40 multiple choice questions and you will have 50 minutes to complete the test. Each will be worth 10% of your total grade. You will be able to take your test any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your test long enough before midnight to ensure that the test does not time out on you before you are done with it.

There is also a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester. It is worth 20% of your final grade and will consist of 80 multiple choice questions and must be completed in 120 minutes. It will be based on all of the chapters and PowerPoint slides covered in the course. You will be able to take your exam any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your exam long enough before midnight to ensure that the exam does not time out on you before you are done with it.

The strategy, therefore, is to make sure you read all of the material beforehand and study it to make sure you are entirely familiar with it. Then, when you are ready for the test, make sure you have the textbook and the PowerPoint slides in front of you so that you can quickly find the answers to the questions

Mandatory Field Trips

During the course of the semester, there will be several field trip opportunities. Every student is expected to attend at least TWO of these field trips (hopefully you can attend all of them). You will receive 5 points for each trip. To receive credit, you must be in attendance for the entire duration of the trip.

Possible (but not confirmed) field trips are:

Cooper Lake State Park - post-oak savanna and riparian woods

Cooper Lake WMA - created wetlands

Clymer Meadow Prairie Preserve - conservation of tallgrass prairies

Tridens Prairie Preserve - alfisol prairie

Lennox Woods Preserve - old-growth Shortleaf Pine forest

Heard Museum and Nature Center

Sabine River Bottom Deer Ranch

Williams Deer Ranch – Deer breeding facility

Field trips will proceed when scheduled, rain or shine. Please dress appropriately and take necessary precautions. Everyone is responsible for their own safety (ie. insect repellent, avoid poison ivy, venomous snakes, etc.). Students may receive EXTRA CREDIT for up to two additional field trips (10 points) if they elect to do so.

Important Note: All students will be required to sign up for field trips in advance. Any student who signs up for a field trip, but does not show up for it will have 5 points subtracted from their grade. Please note that this is cumulative: if you sign up for 6 field trips and don't go to any of them, you will lose 30 points from your grade. If you sign up for six field trips and only go to two, you will gain 10 points, but lose 20 points for a net loss of 10 points. Bottom line: if you sign up for a field trip you need to show up.

Mandatory Bonus Points

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board requires that all courses be evaluated relative to student objectives and outcomes. In this course this evaluation is done relative to an entrance test and an exit test.

ALL STUDENTS MUST WRITE THE ENTRANCE TEST AND THE EXIT TEST.

Your score on the Entrance and Exit tests will be added to your overall score in the course. Thus they will be treated as bonus points. Note that there is one entrance test and one exit test.

ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT COMPLETE THE ENTRANCE TEST WILL HAVE 5 POINTS SUBTRACTED FROM THEIR COURSE GRADE. SIMILARLY, ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT COMPLETE THE EXIT TEST WILL HAVE 5 POINTS SUBTRACTED FROM THEIR GRADE. STUDENTS WHO DON'T COMPLETE ANY OF THESE TESTS WILL HAVE 10 POINTS SUBTRACTED FROM THEIR GRADE.

Course Grading Scheme

IMPORTANT: Be sure to read both the PowerPoint slides and the textbook. The PowerPoint slides for each chapter are available in the Doc Sharing tab in eCollege

IMPORTANT: All assignments, quizzes, tests, and field trips are due on the date they are assigned. There will be no make-up tests. If you miss a test then you will receive a zero grade for that test.

Item	Points	Percent of Course Grade	Due Date
Chapter 11 Quiz	10	5	January 29
Chapter 12 Quiz	10	5	February 5
Chapter 13 Quiz	10	5	February 12
Chapter 14 Quiz	10	5	February 19
Chapter 15 Quiz	10	5	February 26
Chapter 16 Quiz	10	5	March 5
Test 1 (Chapters 11 – 16)	20	10	March 12
Chapter 17 Quiz	10	5	March 26
Chapter 18 Quiz	10	5	April 2
Chapter 19 Quiz	10	5	April 9
Chapter 20 Quiz	10	5	April 16
Chapter 21 Quiz	10	5	April 23
Test 2 (Chapters 17 – 21)	20	10	April 30
Final Exam	40	20	May 7
Field Trips	10	5	TBA
Totals	200	100	
Bonus Points	Points	Percent added to course grade	
Mandatory Bonus – Entrance Test	5	2.5	January 22
Mandatory Bonus – Exit Test	5	2.5	May 4
Field Trips	10	5	TBA

****Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced in class, in eCollege or via email by the instructor. Students who do not attend class, check eCollege or their email assume responsibility for missing adjustments to the course.**

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-enhanced course.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)

Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007)

Access to University Library site

Access to an Email

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the ‘myCourses’ tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical

Support Representative.

Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working

Withdrawal Policy

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.

If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish you to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been submitted, it cannot be changed.

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

Student Conduct

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. You are adults and will be treated as such. Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and students will be asked to leave or drop the class (these same rules apply for online discussions). If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 on the examination or homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following websites:

<http://www.plagiarism.org/>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

Requests for Special Accommodations

Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. An individual instructor cannot decide to make accommodations for you without that Committee's approval.

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides

comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)