
Department: Biological Sciences
Title: BIO-573/673 Ornithology
Instructor: Dr. Joe Caudell (Dr. Joe is fine)
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Office: BL-330;
Office Phone: 270-809-6355
Office Hours:
Class: 11:00 – 12:15 Tuesday and Thursday; BL 343 or on-line (as announced)
Lab: 7:30 – 10:20 am Tuesday, BL 343 or as announced

***Expect to leave for some labs by 6:00 am or earlier***

Pre-requisites: BIO 330 - Ecology

Textbook

- Bird Field Guide of some sort – electronic or paper

Suggested Equipment:

- Rain gear for field work
- Binoculars – as a biologists, you should own a pair of binoculars
- Field notebook – choose a waterproof notebook, such as Rite-in-the-Rain

Course Goals:

This course is to introduce you to a lot of topics in Ornithology, look in depth at some aspects of Ornithology, and to learn to id birds by sight and sound.

Course Objectives:

- Student will about the biology and behavior of birds
- Students will learn to critically think about how a particular trait or behavior may have developed.
- Students will learn to the ordinal level, the phylotaxonomy of the class Aves.
- Students will learn around 225 birds by sight.
- Students will learn around 50 birds by sound.
**Instructional Methods:**

1. Lectures (both on-line and classroom)
2. Problem-based learning
3. Study of laboratory specimens
4. Field exercises
5. Student-guided learning
6. Reading
7. Library / on-line research
8. On-line training

**Attendance Policy:**

Lecture – Attend lectures

Labs – Attend labs; you will need to submit a copy of your field notebook for each lab.

**Homework**

Your homework will be watching recorded lectures, reading the text, and taking on-line quizzes. These lectures will be based on topics from the book. Each chapter of the textbook will have 1-4 on-line lectures, depending upon the complexity of the chapter. Each lecture will be around 15-30 minutes. We will cover 1-2 textbook chapters per week; therefore, you will have approximately 3-6 per week to watch. Each textbook chapter will have an on-line quiz consisting of 10 questions from the lecture and textbook chapter.

The on-line mid-term and end-term test will consist of these questions.

**Class Time (Lectures and Labs)**

Class time will be spent applying and understanding what you have learned in the lectures and in the chapters of the textbook; listening to additional lectures by me or other students; or learning various research techniques used for birds.

**Assessment Plan**

Below is the standard assessment plan for this class.

Weekly Lectures and Quizzes  20%
Lab Exams (mostly bird id)  30%
Tests  50%
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