

**BIOLOGY 377/577, ORNITHOLOGY; “Ornithology Unplugged”
TENTATIVE SYLLABUS FOR SUMMER 2017; R.N. ROSENFELD**

OBJECTIVE: To introduce students to the biology of birds through the study of avian literature, evolution, taxonomy, form, function, behavior, ecology, conservation, identification, and field work. I particularly want to expose you to my (and to that of my colleagues’) type of field work regarding avian ecology and conservation, which emphasizes research with birds of prey. **Along these lines we are on the birds’ schedules so expect announcement the first day of class about days we meet and some we might not.**

ATTENDANCE: Attendance is required by UWSP policy – see the University Catalog. The only excused absences from an exam (see below) are medial or family emergencies, participation in UWSP sport activities as an athlete, and UWSP field trips in other courses (otherwise, there are **no** make-up exams). Student academic standards and disciplinary procedures are covered in: http://www.uwsp.edu/admin/stuaffairs/rights/rights_Chap14.pdf. Turn off cell phone while in class.

TESTS AND GRADING: We’ll have two exams on 8 June (lab test) and 9 June (lecture test) of the last week, respectively, with each exam worth about 100 points. The lab exam will be a practical covering anatomy, skeleton, and songbird identification (Order Passeriformes) via slides and mounts. The lecture exam will be short answer and essay covering lecture topics and an assigned reading(s) sent by me via email.

TEXTS: Robbins et al. (2001), “A guide to field identification, Birds of North America,” is available for purchase from the University Bookstore and local vendors. Gill’s “Ornithology,” third edition, primarily for reference is available in Text Rental. A dictionary always proves useful too!

OFFICE HOURS: My office is CNR Room 474: phone 346-4255; email rosenfi@uwsp.edu. Catch me Tuesday thru Friday during class breaks and right after lecture and/or lab sessions. Please understand that my availability is influenced by my field work.

ADDITIONALS: Be prepared to go outside during any class period, especially on Wednesdays and Fridays. Students will use a dissection kit, or obtain individual items such as scissors, forceps, and a cutting tool (scalpel or razor blade); no need to buy a kit! I have some extra binoculars for those in need.

Useful web sites: www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/id/songlist.html ;
www.uwgb.edu/birds/wbba/speciesaudios.htm ; www.osnabirds.org/on/ornjobs.htm

I reiterate that the above is tentative and EXPECT schedule announcements daily/weekly.
Let’s have some fun!