WILDLIFE 758
ANIMAL ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
SPRING SEMESTER 2021, 3 CREDITS

Contact Info

Instructors: Chris Yahnke and Jason Riddle
Office Hours: Yahnke (Thursdays 2-3pm); Riddle (Wednesdays 1-3:50pm via Zoom);
Emails: cyahnke@uwsp.edu
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Classroom: Virtual via Zoom on Mondays, 4:00 – 5:15PM with additional asynchronous activities

Communication

We communicate primarily through email and announcements in lecture which are usually subsequently posted to the class Notebook.

Course Description

Officially, the course description is as follows: "Advanced topics in animal communities including species diversity, rarity, meta-populations, animal invasions, complex species interactions, and animals as regulators of ecosystem functioning. Emphasis on evaluating recent theories with empirical information." Practically, we will explore animal ecology and conservation biology through detailed discussions on specific topics of your choosing. We will present some material via lecture. However, the vast majority of the content covered in this class will be generated though student initiated discussions.

Learning Outcomes

Students satisfactorily completing this course should be able to:

1) Discuss advanced topics in animal ecology and conservation biology
2) Read, discuss, and debate primary literature
3) Present on advanced topics in animal ecology and conservation biology

Assignments and Grading

Discussion Participation	**100 pts**
Paper Presentation	**100 pts**
Lecture Topic of your choice	**100 pts**

Letter Grade	**Percentage**

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	60-66%
F	0-59%

Tentative Schedule

Date	Topic
1/25/2021	Introductions. Topics of interest
2/1/2021	Faculty-led paper discussion
2/8/2021	Faculty-led paper discussion
2/15/2021	Student-led paper discussion
2/22/2021	Student-led paper discussion
3/1/2021	Student-led paper discussion
3/8/2021	Student-led paper discussion
3/15/2021	Student-led paper discussion
3/22/2021	**SPRING BREAK**
3/29/2021	Student-led paper discussion
4/5/2021	Student-led paper discussion
4/12/2021	Student-led paper discussion
4/19/2021	Student lecture presentation
4/26/2021	Student lecture presentation
5/3/2021	Student lecture presentation
5/10/2021	Student lecture presentation