Wildlife 350: Wildlife Management Techniques Spring 2019

TNR 354
Lecture: *Tuesdays 2:00 - 2:50 (TNR 354)*
Lab Section #1: *Wednesdays 12:00 - 1:50 (TNR 354)*
Lab Section #2: *Wednesdays 2:00 - 3:50 (TNR 354)*

Associate Lecturer: Jordan Meyer (TNR 344; jomeyer@uwsp.edu**;** 715-346-2755)
Office hours: Mon & Tues 10-12, Thu & Fri by appointment

Textbooks*:* Silvy, N. J., Editor. 2012. The Wildlife Techniques Manual, Vol. 1 and 2. 7th edition. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Course Goal and Description*:* The overall goal of this course is for you to become familiar with a variety of techniques used by wildlife managers and researchers. Keep in mind that we will be unable to cover the full set of "tools" available in the wildlife management "toolbox." Rather, the goal is to expose you to the applications, assumptions, and limitations of many common techniques you may encounter as wildlife professionals. During the semester, we will use the lecture and laboratory periods to explore a range of field and laboratory methods. You will be required to conduct an independent research project that will entail a **significant time commitment** outside of the classroom. This is a Writing Emphasis (WE)/Communication in the Major course.

Course Learning Objectives: Specifically, the course is designed to provide students opportunities to:

1) Become familiar with a wide range of techniques and practices employed by wildlife managers and researchers;
2) Understand the assumptions and limitations behind commonly used management and research techniques;
3) Gain a better understanding of the scientific method and apply it to a real-world situation by developing and implementing a wildlife research project (such a marketable skill for the future!);
4) Critically read and understand scientific research papers in journals such as the Wildlife Society Bulletin;
5) Develop scientific writing skills and the ability to orally present research results.

Grading:

Assignment		Points
Examinations	Midterm	100
	Final	100
	Laboratory Exam	100
Research Project		
	Hypotheses	25
	Written Project Proposal	30
	Proposal Oral presentation	50
	Written Project Paper	100
	Project Oral Presentation	50
Additional Lab Assignments		50
TOTAL		**615**

Grade	%
A	93+
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	≤59

Desire 2 Learn: Course materials will accumulate on Desire 2 Learn (D2L) as the semester progresses. Check it often.

Attendance: Material and class attendance are your responsibility. Students are responsible for and may be tested on all information presented in lectures, labs, and assigned readings.

Academic Dishonesty: Trust between students and the instructor is of paramount importance in academic settings. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in the classroom (e.g., cheating on exams) or in research efforts (e.g., plagiarism). Academic dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent that University policy permits.

LECTURE AND LAB SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
22 – Jan	Lect: Introduction to Course; Written communication expectations / Research Project Introduction/Preparation Lab: Exp Design and stats	Chpt: 1 & 2
29 – Jan	Lect: Case studies in applied wildlife research Lab: Hypothesis and Research Project Development (in groups)	TBD
5 – Feb	Lect: Wildlife Health (Dr. Dubay) Lab: Necropsy	Chpt: 7
12 – Feb	Lect: Sexing and Aging Birds Lab: Sexing and Aging Bird/Bird ID	Chpt: 8
19 – Feb	Lect: Sexing and Aging Mammals Lab: Sexing and Aging Mammals/Mammal ID	Chpt: 8
26 – Feb	Lect: Wildlife Capture & Marking Techniques Lab: Capture equipment and their practical applications	Chpt: 3 & 9
5 – Mar	Lect: Oral communication skills **Lab: Lab practical**	Chpt: 24
12 – Mar	Lect: Proposal Oral Presentations / Discussion Lab: Proposal Oral Presentations / Discussion	none
26 – Mar	Lect: Radar Techniques for Wildlife Research Lab: Project Proposal Feedback	Chpt: 13
2 – Apr	Lect: Animal Resource Selection Lab: Resource and habitat selection (GIS-based)	Chpt: 20
9 – Apr	Lect: TBD Lab: TBD	TBD
16 – Apr	Lect: Observing Behavior Lab: Wildlife Observation surveys (on your own)	Chpt: 19
23 – Apr	Lect: Reproduction indices using point counts Lab: Nest Searching	Chpt: 11
30 – Apr	Lect: Project Presentations Lab: Project Presentations	
7 – May	Project Paper and Peer Evals Due: Open Class for Study Questions	
17 - May	Final Exam : 2:45 – 4:45	

Important Dates:

Hypothesis and Lit. Search	February 12th
Written proposals	February 26th
Take Home midterm	March 5th
Proposal Presentation	March 12th
Oral Presentation	April 30th
Project Paper	May 7th
Final Exam	May 17th 2:45 pm to 4:45 pm