

BSC/AG 335 – Wildlife Management I

Instructor: Dr. James W. Cain

Office: Science 215

Phone: 468-3271

Email: James_Cain@tamu-commerce.edu

Course objectives:

1) Understanding of key ecological principles that apply to wildlife at organism, population, community, and ecosystem levels, with an understanding of their relevance to wildlife management practices.

2) Ability to apply ecological and behavioral concepts and principles to the management of wildlife populations and habitats to achieve management objectives related to sustained harvest, wildlife damage control, conservation, and restoration.

3) Understanding of the policy framework, decision processes, and social and political considerations that influence decisions in wildlife management at the state and federal levels.

4) Enhance skills in critical thinking and scientific writing.

Grading

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Exam 1 | 100 points |
| Exam 2 | 100 points |
| Exam 3 | 100 points |
| Final Exam | 100 points |
| Writing assignment | <u>100 points</u> |
| | 500 total points |

Writing assignment:

You will be expected to prepare an essay (5-page minimum, not including reference page; double-spaced, 12-point font) on a topic related to wildlife management or conservation. All topics must be approved by the instructor. Select your essay topic before September 15. Your paper should have at least 10 references, only 2 of which may come from the internet. Your essay will be due on the last day of class (December 4th). Paper format should follow guidelines for the *Journal of Wildlife Management* (http://joomla.wildlife.org/documents/Manuscript_Guidelines_2008.pdf).

Textbook: Bolen, E.G. and W.L. Robinson, Wildlife Ecology and Management, 5th ed., Prentice-Hall, New Jersey., ISBN# 0-13-066250-X

Additional Reading: additional readings may be assigned during the course.

Expectations and responsibilities of students:

Regular attendance in lecture is expected. Exams will be based on material contained in the assigned readings **AND** lectures. Final exam will cover material from the entire course.

Students are expected to read the text chapters and supplemental readings prior to lecture in which the topics are discussed. Some exam questions will be based solely on required readings.

Obligatory Statements:

All student enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment (see Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Copying of material, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs or entire articles, will result in a score of zero for your essay and can result in further disciplinary action.” Note that this is true throughout the University and we do have plagiarism-detecting software in place. Further information for avoiding this activity will be provided with your written assignments.

Students with Disabilities: 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, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148, StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu**

Lecture Schedule (Tentative)

| Week | Topics | Reading |
|---------------|---|---------------|
| 1) 8/25-29 | What is Wildlife Management? Neglect and Exploitation | Chapters 1-3 |
| 2) 9/1-5 | Some Successes in Wildlife Management I Some Successes in Wildlife Management II Ecosystems and Natural Communities I | Chapters 3-4 |
| 3) 9/8-12 | Ecosystems and Natural Communities II&III | Chapter 4 |
| 4) 9/15-19 | Exam 1 Population Ecology I | Chapter 5 |
| 5) 9/22-26 | Population Ecology II | Chapter 5 |
| 6) 9/29-10/3 | Population Ecology III Animal Behavior and Wildlife Management I | Chapter 5-6 |
| 7) 10/6-10 | Animal Behavior and Wildlife Management II Food and Cover | Chapters 6-7 |
| 8) 10/13-17 | Exam 2 Wildlife Diseases I | Chapter 8 |
| 9) 10/20-24 | Wildlife Diseases II Predators and Predation I | Chapters 8-9 |
| 10) 10/27-31 | Predators and Predation II Hunting and Trapping | Chapters 9-10 |
| 11) 11/3-7 | Hunting and Trapping Exam 3 | Chapter 10 |
| 12) 11/10-14 | Wildlife and Water | Chapter 11 |
| 13) 11/17-21 | Wildlife and Water | Chapter 11 |
| 14) 11/24-28* | TBA | |
| 15) 12/1-5 | TBA | |
| 16) 12/3-7 | Final Exam | |

*Short week due to university holiday