

Common Egret at Aransas NWR, March 2008

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### Office hours: MT 11:00-12:00 or by Appointment

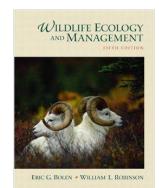
### **Course Textbooks (Required):**

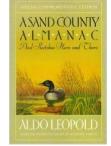
Bolin, E.G. and Robinson, W.L. 2003. Wildlife Ecology and Management, 5th Edition. Prentice Hall, New Jersey ISBN: 9780130662507

Leopold, Aldo, 1949. A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780195059281

#### **Course Synopsis:**

This course is designed to complement Wildlife Management II. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the many aspects of wildlife and conservation science. Topics covered will include the history of conservation, ecosystems, ecology, wildlife disease, and hunting and trapping.





## Student Learning Objectives measured using entrance/exit test:

# Students will demonstrate knowledge of:

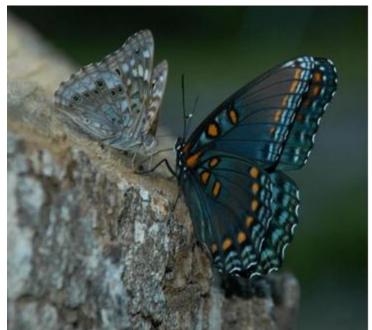
History of wildlife management

Basic population biology

Basic wildlife biology

Basic wildlife disease biology

Basic wildlife ethics



Hackberry butterfly (left) and Red-spotted Purple (right) (Hunt Co., Texas)



White Ibis in Louisiana wetland

#### **Grading and Course Content**

Two textbooks are mandatory. You will be required to read each of the assigned chapters in Bolin and Robinson. In addition, you are provided with PowerPoint slide presentations based on the required chapters in Bolin and Robinson. However, there is frequently material in the PowerPoint slides that is not in the textbook and vice versa. You will be responsible for material in both the PowerPoint slides and in the textbook.

For each chapter there will be a quiz based on material in both the textbook and in the PowerPoint slides. The quiz will be composed of 10 multiple choice questions and will be timed. You will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz.



Western Cottonmouth, Hunt Co., Texas

There will be two term tests, each based on multiple chapters in Bolin and Robinson including material from both the textbook and the PowerPoint slides. These tests will consist of 30 multiple choice questions and you will have 40 minutes to complete the test.

The strategy, therefore, is to make sure you read all of the material beforehand and study it to make sure you are entirely familiar with it. Then, when you are ready for the test, make sure you have the textbook and the PowerPoint slides in front of you so that you can quickly find the answers to the questions.

You are also required to read the entire Aldo Leopold book entitled "A sand county almanac and sketches here and there". Make sure you get the correct edition of the book or you will end up reading much more than necessary. Use the ISBN number given. There will be a test over this book near the end of the semester. It will consist of 20 multiple-choice questions and you will have 40 minutes to complete it.

At the end of the semester is a comprehensive final exam. It will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions and you will have 2 hours to complete it.

#### **Mandatory Bonus Points**

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating

Board requires that all courses be evaluated relative to student objectives and outcomes. In this course this evaluation is done relative to an entrance test and and exit test. **ALL STUDENTS MUST WRITE THE ENTRANCE TEST AND THE EXIT TEST.** 

Your score on the Entrance and Exit tests will be added to your overall score in the course. Thus they will be treated as bonus points. Note that there are eight (8) entrance tests. You must complete them all to get credit and avoid penalty.



Honey Locust in Hunt Co., Texas

ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT COMPLETE ALL EIGHT OF THE ENTRANCE TESTS WILL HAVE 6 PERCENT SUBTRACTED FROM THEIR COURSE GRADE. SIMILARLY, ANY STUDENT WHO DOES NOT COMPLETE THE EXIT TEST WILL HAVE 2.5 PERCENT SUBTRACED FROM THEIR GRADE. STUDENTS WHO DON'T COMPLETE ANY OF THESE TESTS WILL HAVE 8.5 PERCENT SUBTRACTED FROM THEIR GRADE



Spangled Skimmer, Hunt Co., Texas



Southern Copperhead, Hunt Co., Texas

#### **Other Bonus Points**

All students will have additional Bonus Point opportunities as follows:

Deer Age/Antler Workshop – TPWD puts on a Deer Aging/Antler workshop in the fall, typically in November. The exact date will be announced. All students who participate in this activity will be granted 5 points that will be added to their final grade

Deer Lockers – Students will be given the opportunity to assist TPWD personnel at deer lockers. Students will learn how TPWD personnel use data collected at these deer lockers



Five-lined Skink, Hunt Co., Texas

to monitor population status and hunter harvests. All students who participate in this activity will be granted 5 points that will be added to their final grade

Students can participate in one or both of these activities.

## **Grading Scheme**

Mandatory Tests	Points	Percent of Course Grade	Due Date
Chapter 1 Quiz	10	5	September 3
Chapter 2 Quiz	10	5	September 10
Chapter 3 Quiz	10	5	September 17
Chapter 4 Quiz	10	5	September 24
Chapter 5 Quiz	10	5	October 1
Test 1 (Chapters 1 -5)	30	10	October 8
Chapter 6 Quiz	10	5	October 15
Chapter 7 Quiz	10	5	October 22
Chapter 8 Quiz	10	5	October 29
Chapter 9 Quiz	10		November 5
Chapter 10 Quiz	10	5	November 12
Test 2 (Chapters 6 - 10)	30	10	November 19
Sand County Almanac Test	20	10	November 30
	10	20	
Final Exam	40	20	December 4
Totals	220	100	

#### **Bonus Points**

	Points	Percentage	Due Date
Entrance Test	6	3.0	September 1

Exit Test	5	2.5	December 3
Deer Age/Antler Workshop	5	2.5	TBA
Deer Locker	5	2.5	TBA

Course Schedule in Calendar Format:

August						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 First Class					

September	•					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday		Friday	Saturday
		1 Entrance Test	2	3 Chapter 1 Quiz	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Chapter 2 Quiz	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Chapter 3 Quiz	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Chapter 4 Quiz	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday 2	Saturday 3
				Chapter 5 Quiz		
4	5	6	7	8 TEST 1 Chapters (1-5)	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Chapter 6 Quiz	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Chapter 7 Quiz	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Chapter 8 Quiz	30	31

November						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 <b>Chapter 9</b> Quiz	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Chapter 10 Quiz	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 TEST 2 Chapters (6-10)	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Sand Co. Almanac Test					

December						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Exit Test	4 FINAL EXAM All chapters	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

#### **Obligatory Statements:**

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 assignment and can result in further disciplinary action.

\*\*Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule of the class. Any alterations will be announced in class, in eCollege or via email by the instructor. Students who do not attend class, check eCollege or their email assume responsibility for missing adjustments to the course.

#### **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-enhanced course.

The following technology is required to be successful in this course.

Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)

Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007)

Access to University Library site

Access to an Email

Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP or newer) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, or 8.0).

Courses will also work with Macintosh OS X along with a recent version of Safari 2.0 or better. Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login in to eCollege, click on the 'myCourses' tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

Access and Log in Information

This course will be utilizing eCollege to enhance the learning experience, eCollege is the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to: <u>https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx</u>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or<u>helpdesk@tamuc.edu</u>.

### COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of eCollege. The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If you experience issues while taking your exams or at any other point, feel free to contact the support desk.

Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.

Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Email: <u>helpdesk@online.tamuc.org</u> to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.

Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working

## **Withdrawal Policy**

Every student has the right to drop the course without penalty until the drop-date. Students dropping the course during this period will be given a DP (drop while passing). A grade of DP is GPA neutral, but a grade of DF counts as an F on your transcript.

If you choose to stop attending class, you may be dropped from the course due to excessive absences. If you are not satisfied with your grade in the course and wish you to drop, it is YOUR responsibility to drop the course. Once a grade of DP or DF has been submitted, it cannot be changed.

A student may drop a course by logging into their myLEO account and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the myLEO section of the Web page.

## **Student Conduct**

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. You are adults and will be treated as such. Discriminatory, rude, and inappropriate language will not be tolerated in this class and students will be asked to leave or drop the class (these same rules apply for online discussions). If a student continues to act in the same manner during future classes, the instructor reserves the right to drop the student from the course.

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly work free from fraud and deception and is an educational objective of this institution.

Texas A&M University-Commerce has explicit rules and regulations governing academic dishonesty and academic misconduct. As the University states, "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." These policies are stated in detail in the Student's Guide Handbook. Each student is expected to read this document and abide by the contained policies. These university policies will be followed in this class. The minimum penalty for an act of academic dishonesty will be the assignment grade of 0 on the examination or homework assignment. The maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

Texas A&M University-Commerce further does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism and how to avoid it. Visit the following websites:

http://www.plagiarism.org/ http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html

http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml

## **Requests for Special Accommodations**

Requests from students with disabilities for reasonable accommodations must go through the Academic Support Committee. An individual instructor cannot decide to make accommodations for you without that Committee's approval.

## **ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination 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 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services