

I. Ag 336 Wildlife Management II

II. Course Syllabus: Spring, 2016

III. Instructor:

Dr. Jeff Kopachena, Dept. of Biology

A. Office Location: Keith D. McFarland Science Building

B. Email: Jeff.Kopachena@tamuc.edu

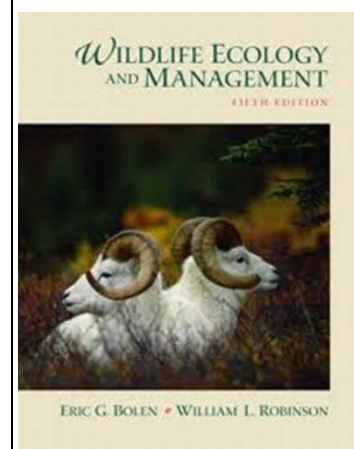


IV. Course Information

A. Course Textbook (Required)

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

ISBN: 9780130662507



V. Course Description:

This course is designed to complement Wildlife Management I. As such it provides an introduction to the many dimensions of wildlife and conservation science. Topics covered include the relationships between wildlife and water, soils, farmlands, rangelands, forests, parks and refuges. Later sections cover urban wildlife, exotic wildlife, wildlife economics and wildlife conservation

VI. Student Learning Objectives measured using entrance/exit test:

- A. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between wildlife abundance and distribution relative to the nature and distribution of water and soils.

- B. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the effects of farm, range, and forest management on wildlife abundance and distribution.

- C. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the various purposes of parks and refuges.

- D. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the impacts of exotic species and the ways in which species adapt to urban environments.

- E. Students will demonstrate knowledge of wildlife economics.

VII. Grading and Course Content

A. A textbook is mandatory. You will be required to read each of the assigned chapters. In addition, in the Doc Sharing tab in eCollege, you are provided with a PowerPoint slide presentations based on the required chapters. 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.

B. **This is not a self-paced course! You must complete all tests and assignments on the date they are due.** All students are responsible for keeping track of due dates. I will not be sending you reminders.

C. For each chapter there will be a quiz based on material in the textbook and in the PowerPoint slides. The quiz will be composed of 10 multiple choice questions and will be timed. You have 20 minutes to complete the quiz. You will be able to take your quiz any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your quiz long enough before midnight to ensure that the quiz does not time out on you before you are done with it.

D. **PLEASE NOTE:** All students are responsible for having secure and reliable internet service. Nonetheless, internet services can be unpredictable at times. For this reason **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TAKE QUIZZES.** If you try to take a quiz after 11:00 PM, and your internet fails, I will not re-open the quiz and you will lose the points for that quiz.

E. There will be two subterm tests (Test 1 and Test 2), each based on multiple chapters and also including material from both the textbook and the PowerPoint slides. These tests will consist of 40 multiple choice questions and you will have 50 minutes to complete the test. Each will be worth 10% of your total grade. You will be able to take your test any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your test long enough before midnight to ensure that the test does not time out on you before you are done with it. If you try to take a test after 11:00 PM, and your internet fails, I will not re-open the test

and you will lose the points for that test.

F. There is also a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester. It is worth 20% of your final grade and will consist of 80 multiple choice questions and must be completed in 120 minutes. It will be based on all of the chapters and PowerPoint slides covered in the course. You will be able to take your exam any time during the day that it is assigned. However, you need to make sure you take your exam long enough before midnight to ensure that the exam does not time out on you before you are done with it. If you try to take the exam after 10:00 PM, and your internet fails, I will not re-open the exam and you will lose the points for that exam.

G. 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

VIII. Mandatory Field Trip

A. During the course of the semester, there will be several field trip opportunities. Every student is expected to attend at least ONE of these field trips (hopefully you can attend all of them). You will receive 10 points for the first trip you attend. To receive credit, you must be in attendance for the entire duration of the trip.

B. Possible (but not confirmed) field trips are:

1. Cooper Lake State Park - post-oak savanna and riparian woods
2. Cooper Lake WMA - created wetlands
3. Clymer Meadow Prairie Preserve - conservation of tallgrass prairies
4. Tridens Prairie Preserve - alfisol prairie
5. Lennox Woods Preserve - old-growth Shortleaf Pine forest
6. Heard Museum and Nature Center
7. Sabine River Bottom Deer Ranch
8. Williams Deer Ranch – Deer breeding facility

C. Field trips will proceed when scheduled, rain or shine. Please dress appropriately and take necessary precautions. Everyone is responsible for their own safety (ie. insect repellent, avoid poison ivy, venomous snakes, etc.). Students may receive EXTRA CREDIT for up to two additional field trips (5 points each) if they elect to do so.

D. **Important Note:** All students will be required to sign up for field trips in advance. Any student who signs up for a field trip, but does not show up for it will have 5 points subtracted from their grade. Please note that this is cumulative: if you sign up for 6 field trips and don't go to any of them, you will lose 30 points from your grade. If you sign up for six field trips and only go to two, you will gain 15 points, but lose 20 points for a net loss of 5 points. Bottom line: if you sign up for a field trip you need to show up.

IX. Bonus Points

A. There are two ways to earn bonus points

1. Entrance/Exit Tests

a) The entrance test is offered at the start of the semester and the exit test occurs at the end of the semester. Each consists of 25 multiple choice questions and you have one hour to take the test.

b) You do not study for the entrance test.

c) The number of bonus points received is based on the percentage of the questions on the test that you get correct.

d) An entrance test is offered at the start of the semester. You may elect to take the entrance test for up to 5 bonus points depending on how many answers you get correct. However, you must take the entrance test at the start of the semester and before the closing date which is announced at the start of the semester. If you do not take the entrance test before it closes, you will not be allowed to take the entrance test. The entrance test will not be re-opened under any circumstances. There are no “excused absences” or any other ways to take the entrance test once it is closed.

e) An exit test is offered at the end of the semester. You may elect to take the exit test for up to 5 bonus points depending on how many answers you get correct. However, you must take the exit test at the end of the semester and before the closing date which will be announced at the end of the semester. If you do not take the exit test before it closes you will not be allowed to take the exit test. The exit test will not be re-opened under any circumstances. There are no “excused absences” or any other ways to take the exit test once it is closed.

2. Extra Field Trips

a) You may attend extra field trips for up to 10 points of additional credit. You will get 5 points for each field trip you attend beyond the first one. However, you cannot get more than 10 points of extra credit for field trips.

Nonetheless, you are welcome to sign up for as many field trips as you would like to attend.

b) Important Note: All students will be required to sign up for field trips in advance. Any student who signs up for a field trip, but does not show up for it will have 5 points subtracted from their grade. Please note that this is cumulative: if you sign up for 6 field trips and don't go to any of them, you will lose 30 points from your grade. If you sign up for six field trips and only go to two, you will gain 15 points, but lose 20 points for a net loss of 5 points. Bottom line: if you sign up for a field trip you need to show up.

X. Course Grading Scheme

A. **IMPORTANT:** Be sure to read both the PowerPoint slides and the textbook. The PowerPoint slides for each chapter are available in the Doc Sharing tab in eCollege

B. **IMPORTANT:** All assignments, quizzes, tests, and field trips are due on the date they are assigned. There will be no make-up tests. If you miss a test then you will receive a zero grade for that test.

XI. Table showing grading scheme:

Required Items	Points	Percent of Grade	Due Date
Chapter 11 Quiz	10	5	January 28
Chapter 12 Quiz	10	5	February 4
Chapter 13 Quiz	10	5	February 11
Chapter 14 Quiz	10	5	February 18
Chapter 15 Quiz	10	5	February 25
Chapter 16 Quiz	10	5	March 3
Test 1 (Chapters 11-16)	20	10	March 10

Chapter 17 Quiz	10	5	March 24
Chapter 18 Quiz	10	5	March 31
Chapter 19 Quiz	10	5	April 7
Chapter 20 Quiz	10	5	April 14
Chapter 21 Quiz	10	5	April 21
Test 2 (Chapters 17-21)	20	10	April 28
Final Exam	40	20	May 5
Field Trip	10	5	TBA
Total	200	100	
Bonus Points	Points	Percent added to course grade	Due Date
Entrance Test	Up to 5	Up to 2.5	January 21
Exit Test	Up to 5	Up to 2.5	May 12
Field Trips	Up to 10	Up to 5	TBA
<p>**Disclaimer: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the schedule and grading scheme of the class. Any alterations will be announced in eCollege or via email by the instructor. Students who do not check eCollege or their email assume responsibility for missing adjustments to the course.</p>			

XII. TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- A. The following information has been provided to assist you in preparing to use technology in your web-enhanced course.
1. The following technology is required to be successful in this course.
 2. Internet connection – high speed recommended (not dial-up)
 3. Word Processor (Microsoft Office Word – 2003 or 2007)
 4. Access to University Library site
 5. Access to an Email
- B. Additionally, the following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege:
1. 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).
 2. 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.
 3. 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.

XIII. ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

- A. Access and Log in Information
1. 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: <https://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.
 2. 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 helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

XIV. COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

- A. 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.
- B. Chat Support: Click on 'Live Support' on the tool bar within your course to chat with an eCollege Representative.
- C. Phone: 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- D. Email: helpdesk@online.tamuc.org to initiate a support request with eCollege Technical Support Representative.
- E. Help: Click on the 'Help' button on the toolbar for information regarding working

XV. Withdrawal Policy

- A. 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.
- B. 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.
- C. 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.

XVI. Student Conduct

- A. 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.

XVII. Academic Integrity

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

B. 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.

C. 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.

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

1. <http://www.plagiarism.org/>
2. <http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/plagiarism.html>
3. <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

XVIII. Special Accommodations

A. 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.

XIX. ADA Statement

A. 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 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

[Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)