



**Instructor:**

Dr. Frank R. Hensley

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Office: Hederman Science Center 206-207

Office Hours: 10:00-11:00 MWF, other times by appointment

**Meeting time:** Tuesdays 6:00-9:00 PM, Hederman Science 105

- 1. Course Prefix, Number, Name and Credit for Lecture or Laboratory hours.**  
BIO 448 and BIO 6504, Wildlife Biology, 3 hours credit
- 2. Prerequisites for course.**  
Three semesters of biology and instructor's consent for BIO 448  
Graduate standing for BIO 6504
- 3. Course descriptions from the university catalogs.**

**BIO 445-446-447-448-449 Special Topics**

Credit 3 sem. hrs. Lecture and laboratory four to eight hours a week.

Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

A study of selected current topics in biology.

## **BIO 6504 Wildlife Biology**

Credit 3 sem. hrs. Lecture three hours a week.

Prerequisite(s): Graduate Standing.

This course examines the ecology and management principles of wildlife.

### **4. Rationale for Course.**

This course helps students develop practical application of the principles of wildlife conservation appropriate to the professional practice and teaching of conservation biology. The ethics and values that underlie the study and practice of resource conservation are placed within the context of Christian stewardship of God's earth.

### **5. Student objectives and outcomes.**

- Discuss the ethics and dilemmas of decision making in biological conservation.
- Apply quantitative and graphical techniques to problem solving in wildlife conservation.
- Analyze primary literature about wildlife conservation.
- Present case studies in conservation biology to classmates for analysis and group discussion.

### **6. Academic Integrity Statement.**

Mississippi College students are expected to be scrupulously honest. Dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism, or furnishing false information, including forgery, alteration or misuse of University documents, records or identification, will be regarded as a serious offense subject to severe penalty, including, but not limited to, loss of credit and possible dismissal. See the *Mississippi College Student Handbook* or Policy 2.19 for specific information regarding penalties associated with dishonest behavior at Mississippi College. Copies of the *Mississippi College Student Handbook* are available on the web and in the Office of the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Nelson 313. Copies of policies are available on the Mississippi College web site.

### **7. Outline of topics to be covered in course.**

Biodiversity

Ecosystem Functions and Services

Attitudes, Values and Ethics

Population Ecology, Endangerment, Extinction, Population Viability

Biogeography

Wildlife Food, Feeding & Nutrition

Wildlife Diseases

Predator-Prey Interactions  
 Sustainable Harvest of Wildlife  
 Ecological Communities and Succession; Fire; Climate Change  
 Land Management, Habitat Connectivity and Fragmentation  
 Wildlife Parks and Preserves  
 Invasive Species

**8. Methods of Instruction.**

Methods of Instruction and Required Practices: This course is taught via discussion of assigned readings, lectures, in-class exercises, student presentations, and out-of-class library research and writing.

**9. Required Practices.**

Wildlife Biology class requires reading of textbooks and primary literature, synthesis of information, and both in-class and out-of-class writing. Students are required to lead in-class discussion of graphs of data.

**10. Instructional Materials**

**Required texts:**

*Conservation Biology For All*. Sodhi, N. S., & Ehrlich, P. R. (Eds.). (2010). Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Download a free copy at this URL:

<http://www.mongabay.com/conservation-biology-for-all.html>

**11. Methods of evaluating student progress.**

<b>Undergraduate Student Grading Summary</b>	
Primary Literature Graph Analysis exercise (2) at 50 points each	100 points
Primary Literature Presentation or 3 <sup>rd</sup> Analysis	50
Lecture Exams (2) at 100 points each	200
Attendance	50
Homework, in-class exercises, and participation	<b>50</b>
Video of the Week Presentation	<b>20 bonus points</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>450 points</b>

<b>Graduate Student Grading Summary</b>	
Primary Literature Graph Analysis exercise (4) at 50 points each	200 points
Primary Literature Presentation	100
Lecture Exams (2) at 100 points each	200

Attendance	50
Homework, in-class exercises, and participation	50
Video of the Week Presentation	20 bonus points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>600 points</b>

\*Absences from class will subtract 20 points from the attendance and participation grade; negative values begin on the third absence. See the Attendance policy (15a) below for additional details.

## 12. Accommodations statement

### Special accommodations at Student Counseling Services:

In order for a student to receive disability accommodations under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, he or she must schedule an individual meeting with the Director of Student Counseling Services **immediately upon recognition of their disability** (if their disability is known they must come in before the semester begins or make an appointment **immediately** upon receipt of their syllabi for the new semester). The student must bring with them written documentation from a medical physician and/or licensed clinician that verifies their disability. If the student has received prior accommodations, they must bring written documentation of those accommodations (example Individualized Education Plan from the school system). Documentation must be current (**within 3 years**). The student must meet with SCS **face-to face** and also attend two (2) additional follow up meetings (one mid semester before or after midterm examinations and the last one at the end of the semester). Please note that the student may also schedule additional meetings as needed for support through SCS as they work with their professor throughout the semester. Note: Students must come in **each semester** to complete their Individualized Accommodation Plan (example: MC student completes fall semester IAP plan and even if student is a continuing student for the spring semester they must come in again to complete their spring semester IAP plan).

Student Counseling Services is located in Alumni Hall Room #4 or they may be contacted via email at: mbryant@mc.edu or rward@mc.edu or by phone at 601-925-7791.

## 13. Exam schedule.

Midterm exam is Tuesday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Final Exam is Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

## 14. Grading scale.

Undergraduates:

Minimum percentages required to earn letter grades:

A= 90-100%	B = 80-89%	C = 70-79%	D = 60-69%	F < 60%
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Final percentages are rounded to the nearest whole percentage. For example, 89.50% rounds to 90% and earns an A, but 89.49% rounds down to 89% and earns a B.

Graduate students:

Minimum percentages required to earn letter grades:

A= 90-100%	B+ = 87-89%	C+ = 77-79%	D = 60-69%	F < 60%
	B = 80-86%	C = 70-76%		

Final percentages are rounded to the nearest whole percentage. For example, 86.50% rounds to 87% and earns a B+, but 86.49% rounds down to 86% and earns a B.

**15. Other:**

**a. Attendance/Participation Regulations**

Class attendance/participation is an essential part of university/graduate education, and students are expected to attend/participate regularly and punctually all classes and laboratories for which they are registered. Cumulative absences/non participation may result in a lowered grade or loss of credit for the course. Tardiness is also subject to penalty. Although some specific requirements may vary according to the nature and structure of the course, the following guidelines summarize institutional policy:

- Class attendance/participation is required, and accurate records are kept.
- A student receives a grade of F in any course immediately upon accumulating the following number of absences in that class: 4 in semester classes meeting 1 time per week. Any exception to this rule, granted only in extraordinary circumstances, must be approved by the Dean's Committee on Absences.
- For lesser number of absences/non participation, the student should expect a lowered grade in the course, with the maximum penalty of one letter grade for each week of absences (in a semester) or the equivalent. The calculation of the semester grade, including any penalty for absences, is the responsibility of the faculty member and may vary according to the nature of the course and the

grading scale used. In some classes points will be deducted from the semester grade for unexcused absences; in others, the penalty may be built into the grading scale by means of frequent pop quizzes, grades for class participation and the like.

- See the Evaluation policy above for penalties for this course
- The faculty member will excuse a limited number of absences/non participation for serious illness, for field trips, for representing the University, and perhaps for other emergency reasons that the faculty member finds justifiable. Documentation is required for an absence to be excused.
- Whether an absence/non participation is excused or not, the student who is absent misses some learning that takes place in the class. Naturally, the faculty member is more inclined to assist the student in making up the work if the absence was excused. However, the responsibility for work missed rests entirely with the student.
- A student registering late will be charged for all absences/nonparticipation occurring prior to reporting to class, although these may be treated as excused absences.

**b. Policy on make-up examinations.**

For excused absences, makeup exams will be taken within 1 week of the absence, or will receive a grade of zero points.

**c. Makeup Classes:**

- In the event that the professor must cancel a class session for any reason, a makeup class session will be offered. Makeup class sessions may be offered during early morning hours, evening hours, or weekends. If such a makeup session is offered, attendance is optional and absences will not count against a student's total attendance record. All students are responsible for any material taught during a makeup session, but attendance is optional.

**d. Important college and course dates**

Tuesday	8/27/13	Class
Monday	9/2/13	Labor Day
Tuesday	9/3/13	Class
Thursday	9/5/13	Last Day To Drop A Full Semester Class With 100% Tuition Only Refund
Tuesday	9/10/13	Class

Tuesday	9/17/13	Class
Tuesday	9/24/13	Class
Tuesday	10/1/13	Class
Monday	10/7/13	Fall Break
Tuesday	10/8/13	<b>NO CLASS</b> - Fall Break
Tuesday	10/15/13	<b>Exam 1</b>
Wednesday	10/16/13	<b>MIDTERM</b>
Tuesday	10/22/13	Class
Friday	10/25/13	<b>Last Day to Drop</b>
Tuesday	10/29/13	Class
Tuesday	11/5/13	Class
Tuesday	11/12/13	Class
Tuesday	11/19/13	Class
Tuesday	11/26/13	Class
Wednesday	11/27/13	Thanksgiving
Thursday	11/28/13	Thanksgiving
Friday	11/29/13	Thanksgiving
Tuesday	12/3/13	Class
Tuesday	12/10/13	Class
Thursday	12/12/13	Study Day
Tuesday	12/17/13	<b>Final Exam 6-9</b>

**e. Other course expectations**

See the Required Practices section above for course-specific information.

**f. Additional requirements for graduate students.**

All graduate students will complete a class presentation of one or more data graphs from primary literature. Specific instructions and examples will be provided in class.