Course: Conservation of Biological Diversity (BOT/ZOOL 476/575), Spring 2013
Lecture: M & W 4:00-4:50pm in 202 Waggoner
Lab: TH 10:00-11:50 & 1:00-2:50pm 272 Waggoner
Credit: This is a 3-credit course.
Prerequisites: BOT, MICR, & ZOOL 200; BIOL 340, or BIOL 350, or instructor permission

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Meagher
Office Hours: M: 11-12, T: 11-12 & 1-2, W: 11-12
Office: 230 Waggoner Hall
Phone: 298-2409

Donovan & Welden.. 2002. Spreadsheet Exercises in Conservation Biology…

Web page: https://westernonline.wiu.edu (Login: Username=Ecom username, Password=WIU student #)

Objective: Non-human species are currently undergoing an extinction crisis. Conservation Biology is a multidisciplinary science that seeks to slow the loss of biodiversity. In this course, students will become familiar with the causes of population extinction and the historical, development of the discipline. Students will also apply concepts and methods used in (1) the conservation of genetic diversity (measures of diversity, inbreeding depression, captive breeding, & hybridization); (2) the conservation of populations (demography, population viability analysis, & metapopulation dynamics); and (3) the conservation of habitats (habitat loss, island biogeography, & reserve design). Finally, you will evaluate the applications of conservation biology in restoration ecology & sustainable development.

Evaluation: Grades will be based on exams, writing assignments as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Midterm 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Midterm 2 (comprehensive)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Final (comprehensive)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab assignments (12@5pts ea)</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Species recovery plan&quot;</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total 460</strong></td>
<td><strong>PPT, Recovery plan 40</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total 500</strong></td>
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Lecture exams will be primarily problem-solving, short answer, and essay. Lab assignments will be short write-ups of lab projects. The Species Recovery Plan will be a major paper in which you synthesize and apply general concepts to the management of a particular species.

Grades: Based on your total of all possible points:

Undergrad (of 460): ≥ 414.0 = A; ≥ 413.5 = A−; ≥ 413 = B+; ≥ 368.0 = B; ≥ 367.5 = B−; ≥ 367.0 = C+,
≥ 322.0 = C; ≥ 321.5 = C−; ≥ 321.0 = D+, ≥ 276.0 = D; ≥ 275.5 = D−; ≥ 275.5 = F

Grad (of 500): ≥ 460 = A; ≥ 410 = B; ≥ 360 = C; ≥ 362 = D; < 362 = F

***Grades will not be changed unless I've made a mathematical error. Insure that your grades have been recorded correctly!***

***Lab attendance is required! 2 absences will result in “F” for class!!

Make-ups: Within 7 days of the scheduled test day ONLY for (1) death in family (I’ll need documentation); or (2) rare extenuating circumstances (I’ll decide), ONLY if I have 2 weeks advance warning (plan ahead).

Re-grades: I will ONLY consider written requests for exam re-grades within 3 days after tests have been returned (EXAMPLE REQUEST: “I believe the answer to Question X is …because…” [this last part is critical!!]). I will consider material in the text to be correct UNLESS I specifically tell you otherwise in lecture or lab.

Academic dishonesty/Plagiarism: Rules concerning student conduct will be strictly enforced. No appearance of dishonesty (such as plagiarism) will be tolerated. Such work will be taken and assigned a grade of “0” (zero).

Details (forms, definitions, & time-lines) that you are responsible for are on WIU’s web sites:
Students Rights and Responsibilities: http://www.wiu.edu/provost/student

Other administrative sites: You should also be familiar with the forms, definitions, & time-lines at these web sites:
Grade Appeal Policy: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/gradeapp.shtml

Special needs: Students with disabilities who require special arrangements for exams or emergency situations should see me immediately (I cannot ask you!). Please contact Disability Support Services (298-2512) to learn all of your options.

***This SYLLABUS is subject to change!!***