

CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
Bio 4033 – Fall, 2007. M-W-F, 12 – 12:50 p.m., HSS 3.03.18

Instructor: Dr. Nancy Klepper

Office: SB 3.01.39P, 1604 Campus

Phone: 210 458-6567

Office Hours: M-W-F, 1:00-3:00 p.m.; other hours by appointment.

Text: *Essentials of Conservation Biology*, 4th Ed., Richard B. Primack

Prerequisites: Biology I (1113), Bio II (1123), and Bio III (1143). Principles of Ecology (Bio 3283) strongly recommended.

Objectives: To provide an understanding of the importance of biodiversity in the world, to address the alarming decline and loss in biodiversity that is happening on Earth, and to become familiar with measures that are being taken now and must be taken in the future to conserve and promote what is left in the natural world.

Course Description: Conservation Biology introduces the student to the nature of the biosphere, the threats to its integrity, survival, and continuation, and the responses to these threats by government and conservation organizations.

Attendance: The course moves quickly over a wide range of topics. Although much of the lecture material may be found in the text, other sources of information are also incorporated into lecture, exams, and grading. These include guest speakers, student seminar sessions (which include presentation of a short paper and attendance), outside readings, and field trips. Students are responsible for all information presented and assigned, regardless of attendance.

Grading: There will be three major exams, which includes the cumulative final exam; each exam is worth 100 points. Questions will consist of short-answer essays, multiple choice, matching, and interpretive readings. In addition, each student will be required to prepare a short oral presentation (to be assigned by the instructor) at one of the student seminar sessions; this project will be worth 25 points. A brief commentary will be due the Monday following each of the two field trips (at 15 points each), and a short summary of material presented by the speaker and in the video will be worth 10 points each. A final assignment will be a brief, written overview of an endangered species @25 points.

3 major exams @ 100	= 300
1 seminar presentation	= 25
2 field trip commentaries @ 15	= 30
1 video summary @ 10	= 10
1 speaker commentary @ 10	= 10
1 endangered species brief @ 25	= 25
Total points:	400

There are no make-up exams. Exams must be taken on scheduled dates unless the student makes prior arrangements to take them early or within the week following the exam.

Policy on Dishonesty: Violation of University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." (Regents' Rules of Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22). These policies will be strictly enforced.

CONSERVATION BIOLOGY LECTURE SCHEDULE
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			Chapter
August	W 22	Introduction: What Is Conservation Biology	1
	F 24	“ “ “	
	M 27	“ “ “	
	W 29	“ “ “	
	F 31	Pesticides (from Rachel Carson’s <i>Silent Spring</i>)	
Sept.	M 3	Labor Day Holiday – Classes do not meet.	
	W 5	Pesticides continued	
	F 7	What Is Biological Diversity	2
	M 10	“ “ “	
	W 12	Where Is the World’s Biodiversity Found?	3
	F 14	Valuing Biodiversity	4, 5, 6
	M 17	“ “ “	
	W 19	“ “ “	
	F 21	Extinction/Vulnerability to Extinction	7, 8
	M 24	EXAM I , Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Pesticides, Outside Readings	
	W 26	Extinction/Vulnerability to Extinction continued	
	F 28	Field Trip Briefing	
Saturday, Sept. 29: Field Trip I – San Antonio Botanical Gardens, 9-11:30 a.m.			
Oct.	M 1	Student Seminar Session I	
	W 3	“ “ “	
	F 5	“ “ “	
	M 8	Habitat Destruction, Fragmentation, Degradation, and Global Climate Change	9
	W 10	“ “ “	
	F 12	“ “ “	
	M 15	“ “ “	
	W 17	“ “ “	
	F 19	Overexploitation, Invasive Species, and Disease	10
	M 22	“ “ “ “	
	W 24	Speaker, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.	
	F 26	EXAM II . Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, Speaker, Field Trip I, Outside Readings	
	M 29	Problems of Small Populations	11
	W 31	“ “ “	
Nov.	F 2	“ “ “	
	M 5	Student Seminar Session II	
	W 7	“ “ “	
	F 9	“ “ “	
Saturday, November 10: Field Trip II (to be announced, date tentative)			
	M 12	Applied Population Biology – Handout	12
	W 14	Establishing New Populations	13
	F 16	“ “ “	
	M 19	<i>Ex Situ</i> Conservation Strategies	14
	W 21	Endangered Species Paper Due	
	F 23	Thanksgiving Holiday – Classes do not meet	
	M 26	<i>Ex Situ</i> Conservation Strategies cont.	
	W 28	Conservation and Sustainable Development	20
	F 30	“ “ “ “ “	
Dec.	M & T,	December 3-4: Student Study Days; classes do not meet.	

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, DECEMBER 11. 1:30 – 4:00 P.M.

This schedule is subject to change. All changes will be announced in class.

Note:

Sept. 7 is Census Date; last day to drop or withdraw without a grade.

Oct. 23 is the last day for sophomores and above to drop an individual course or withdraw from all classes and receive an automatic grade of “W.”

Nov. 28 is the withdrawal deadline; last day for sophomores and above to withdraw from all classes.