

## Conservation Research, BIOL 5101, Fall 2014

### Syllabus

**Instructor:** Martin Terry, DVM, PhD  
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**Office Hours:** M 3:00–5:00 p.m., T 2:00–5:00 p.m., or by appointment. Drop in at random if you feel lucky. If I'm in the office, you're welcome.

**Time and Venue of Class Meeting:** M 2:00 p.m., WSB 204

**Textbooks:** None required.  
Case studies for discussion will be selected from the published literature, from the instructor's own work, and possibly from unpublished reports of regulatory agencies.

#### Tentative Seminar Schedule:

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DATE	SEMINAR TOPICS
8/25	Introduction — the general nature of conservation science
9/01	<b>Labor Day — No Class</b>
9/08	Case study #1 — paper from the literature
9/15	Case study #2 — paper from the literature
9/22	Case study #3 — paper from the literature
9/29	Case study #4 — paper from the literature
10/06	Case study #5 — paper from the literature
10/13	Case study #6 — paper from the literature
10/20	Case study #7 — paper from the literature
10/27	Case study #8 — paper from the literature
11/03	Case study #9 — paper from the literature
11/10	Case study #10 — paper from the literature
11/17	Case study #11 — paper from the literature
11/24	Case study #12 — paper from the literature
12/01	Case study #13 — paper from the literature
12/08	<b>Final Exam: To be arranged.</b>

#### OBJECTIVES OF THIS COURSE:

- Understand the unique nature of conservation science and how it differs from the physical sciences – and indeed from the related biological sciences
- Appropriately apply the terminology used in conservation research.
- Recognize common types of study designs used in conservation research.
- Understand the role of quantitative morphological analysis in conservation research.
- Understand plant breeding systems, polyploidy, and their role in conservation research.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the economic importance of certain wild plant species subject to harvesting, with emphasis on the native species of West Texas.

**GRADING:** Grades as a percentage of 200 total points will be reported as letter grades according to the following percentage intervals: A = 89.5–100%. B = 79.5–89.5%. C = 69.5–79.5%. D = 59.5–69.5%. F = 0–59.5%.

**POINT DISTRIBUTION:**

Term Paper	50
Final Exam (comprehensive)	150
<b>TOTAL POINTS FOR COURSE:</b>	<b>200</b>

**Attendance** is required. Students will be dropped with an F for excessive absences, defined as absences that exceed 20% of the course (i.e., 9 lectures in this course). If you know that you must miss a class, please show me the courtesy of letting me know in advance.

**DISABILITIES INFORMATION:** It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in the programs, services and activities at Sul Ross State University should contact the Counseling and Accessibility Center, Ferguson Hall 112, Box 122, Alpine, TX 79832 (phone 432-837-8203).