

# BIOL 4409 – Mammalogy Spring 2016

**Instructor:** Dr. Dan H. Foley III  
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Office hours: Monday - Thursday 11:00am – 12:00am (Del Rio)  
 Friday by appointment

**Required Texts:** Vaughan, T. A., J. M. Ryan and N. J. Czaplewski. 2015.  
 Mammalogy 6<sup>th</sup> edition. Jones and Bartlett Learning,  
 USA. 756 pp.

Any one or two of several field guides and/or keys to the mammals of North America and Texas.

- Course Objective:** There are three broad goals for this course:
- Improve zoological literacy by learning the basic facts, principles and concepts of the field of mammalogy.
  - Improve scientific literacy by learning how scientists construct knowledge.
  - Become acquainted with the more common representative mammal species of our region.

**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

(note: exact date are subject to change, be sure to keep abreast of changes).

Date	Topics	Readings
Jan. 20	Introduction Origin of Mammals	Chapter 1 Chapter 2
Jan. 27	Mammalian Characteristics	Chapter 3
Feb. 3	Mammalian classification Monotremata	Chapter 4 Chapter 5
<b>Feb. 10</b>	<b>Exam I</b> Metatheria	<b>Chapters 1 – 5</b> Chapter 6
Feb. 17	Introduction to Eutherian Mammals Afrosoricidae, Macroscelidae & Tublidentata	Chapter 7 Chapter 8
Feb. 24	Paenungulata	Chapter 9

March 2	Cingulata, Pilosa, & Pholidota	Chapter 10
<b>March 9</b>	<b>Exam II</b>	<b>Chapters 6 – 10</b>
	Dermoptera & Scandentia	Chapter 11
<i>March 16</i>	<i>Spring break – No Classes –</i>	
March 23	Primates	Chapter 12
	Rodentia & Lagomorpha	Chapter 13
March 23	Erinaceomorpha & Soricomorpha	Chapter 14
March 30	Chiroptera	Chapter 15
<b>April 6</b>	<b>Exam III</b>	<b>Chapters 11 – 15</b>
	Carnivora	Chapter 16
April 13	Perissodactyla	Chapter 17
April 20	Artiodactyla	Chapter 18
April 27	Cetacea	Chapter 19
May 4	Reproduction	Chapter 20
<b>May 11</b>	<b>Exam IV</b>	<b>Chapters 16 – 20</b>

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**Grade assessment:**

There will be **4** examinations and **2** laboratory examinations during this course. Each exam will be worth 100 points. There will be ***no make-up exams – no exceptions!*** The lecture portion of the class will represent approximately 60% of your overall grade.

Exam Dates:           Exam I – February 10<sup>th</sup>  
                               Exam II – March 9<sup>th</sup>  
                               Exam III – April 6<sup>th</sup>  
                               Exam IV – May 11<sup>th</sup>

Questions will be drawn from information presented in lecture, contained in the text, and through occasional class notes, handouts, videos or additional assigned readings. Exam questions may consist of a few definitions or vocabulary/concepts, multiple choice questions and short essay questions. No notes, books, cell phones, PDA's, or other materials will be allowed during the exam. I will provide an English dictionary for your use if necessary. If you are an ESL student, please contact me to make arrangements for use of foreign language dictionaries and translators.

## Mammalogy laboratory

The laboratory period will be used to familiarize yourself with the more common mammals of North America and specifically Texas. You will also become more fully acquainted with the skeletal characteristics that help define the class mammalia. Finally, you will learn the specific techniques utilized by mammalogists to preserve specimens for more thorough scientific study.

### Lab Schedule

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Date .....	Topic
January 20 .....	Postcranial Skeleton
January 27 .....	Movie " <i>A Winning Design</i> " The Skull & Teeth
February 3 .....	Movie " <i>Opportunists</i> " Review of Skull and postcranial skeleton
February 10 .....	Movie " <i>Insect Hunters</i> " Orders: Monotremata / Didelphidae / Insectivora / Xenarthra
February 17 .....	Orders: Chiroptera / Primates
February 24 .....	Movie " <i>Plant Predators</i> " Orders: Lagomorpha / Artiodactyla / Perissodactyla

### **March 2 ..... Mid-term Practical**

March 9 .....	Movie " <i>Meat Eaters</i> " Orders: Carnivora
March 16 .....	<i>Spring break – No Classes –</i>
March 23 .....	Movie " <i>Return to the Water</i> " Order: Cetacea
March 30 .....	Movie " <i>Chisellers</i> " Order: Rodents I
April 6 .....	Order: Rodents II
April 13 .....	Order: Rodents III

### **April 20 ..... Final Lab Practical**

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2 laboratory practical exams will be administered during this class. Each practical will be worth 100 points, therefore a total of 200 point are possible. In addition you will be required to produce a “road-kill” journal which will be worth 50 points. More details will be given in class. The laboratory portion of this class will represent approximately 30% of your overall grade.

*Extra Credit*

There will be **NO** opportunities for extra credit, so don't even ask!

Therefore, there are a total of 460 possible points during this course:

4 exams scores	400
2 lab practicals	200
<u>Road-kill journal</u>	<u>50</u>
Total	650

<u>Total points</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>
585 – 650	90 – 100%	A
520 – 584	80 – 89%	B
455 – 519	70 – 79%	C
390 – 454	60 – 69%	D
389 or less	> 60%	F

**Study Tips:**

Everyone has there own unique way of learning. How you study rather than how long you study will have a huge impact on your grade in this course. If you use all the resources available to you and take an active role in the learning process you will likely do much better.

Some specific tips are:

- Spend 15 – 20 minutes to skim through each reading assignment before class.
- Review the lecture notes and read the assigned reading
- Do the study questions at the end of each chapter
- Try to draw diagrams from lecture and the book from memory
- Make flash cards or important concepts and terms
- Call up a friend and try to explain what you have learned in class
- **ASK QUESTIONS!** You are not in this class alone, if you don't understand something, more than likely your classmates also don't understand.

**Attendance:**

This is an upper division college course. You are an adult, and you paid for this course. I will not be taking roll call. However, material for the exams will come largely from my lectures, so it is in your best interest to come and participate in class.

**Disabled Students:**

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for students with disabilities. Please meet with me the first week of class to discuss any special needs you may need.

**Academic Honesty:**

Cheating will not be tolerated. The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom.

"Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying from another student's test paper, a laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs.
- Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
- Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work.
- Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of an unadministered test.
- Substituting for another student; permitting any other person; or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.
- Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
- Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of the rough and/or final versions of an assignment by a professional typist.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea into one's own work offered for credit. This includes verbatim written answers by colleagues with whom you might discuss laboratories exercises. Plagiarism also includes copying information from internet resources. To avoid plagiarism, make sure you always use your own words to construct your written answers.