

LAB SYLLABUS
BIOL 4403/5407 Herpetology Fall 2018

Instructor: Sean P. Graham, PhD
Laboratory: M 3:00-4:45 WSB 107
Office: WSB 221
MC TA: Tomas Hernandez

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Laboratory: Much of the material covered in lecture will be enhanced and expanded in the laboratory component of this course. You will be tested on this material during the scheduled exam periods. You need to check Blackboard to download and print any lab notes preceding each meeting. Field trips are tentatively scheduled, and I encourage you to attend. Seeing reptiles and amphibians in the field is not only enjoyable but will enhance your appreciation and understanding of the material being presented in lecture and laboratory. The finalized dates of field trips will be announced in class.

Venomous Snakes: Never pick up a snake you even **THINK** might be venomous. If you aren't certain the snake is non-venomous, do not pick it up. If you have doubts, do not pick it up.

Supplies:

- herpetology field guide (optional, but would be a wise investment)
- **REQUIRED** field notebook; pencil or waterproof pen
- snake stick/tongs (optional)
- potato rake (optional)

Lab Grading:

3 lab practicals @ 50 pts ea	300
<u>Class participation</u>	<u>50</u>
TOTAL	350 points

Lab grades will be added to lecture grades for a single grade.

Student Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for Biology:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of evolution by natural selection
2. *Demonstrate an integration of environmental awareness into everyday modern life**
3. Understand how to incorporate molecular biology into the study of whole organisms
4. *Demonstration utilization of various field techniques toward addressing scientific questions in the discipline**
5. Conduct basic laboratory experiments utilizing standard observational strategies

*These SLOs will be the focus of course assessments.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEEK	DAY / DATE	TOPIC
2	Aug 27	Introduction; U.S. herp families
3	Sept 03	<i>Labor Day, no labs. First lab for MC students this week</i>
4	Sept 10	Salamanders, Frogs
5	Sept 17	Frogs cont. Frog Dissection
6	Sept 24	<i>Lab Practical #1</i>
Sep 28-30 Epic Optional Herp Field trip to Big Bend National Park		
7	Oct 1	Lizards Part I
Oct 6 Saturday Special Midland Herp field trip Monahans Sand Dunes		
8	Oct 8	Field Herpetology techniques
9	Oct 15	Lizards Part II
10	Oct 22	Lizard dissection
11	Oct 29	<i>Lab Practical #2</i>
12	Nov 5	Snakes Part I
Nov 2-4 special graduate student optional field trip advanced herp techniques		
13	Nov 12	Snakes & Turtles
14	Nov 26	Snake dissection
15	Dec 3	<i>Lab Practical #3 (last day of classes for lab)</i>

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

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