

NRM 3202 – Wildlife Identification & Natural History Course Syllabus - Spring 2020

Instructor

Name: Richard B. Mrozinski
Office: RAS 113 (MWF), ACR 109-B (TR)
Office Hours: MW 2-3 RAS 113; TR 10:45-11:30 ACR 109-B; F 10-12 RAS 113; or by appointment. Plus, I have "Open Door Office Hours". Feel free to stop by anytime you see me in my office.
Phone: RAS: (432) 837-8606, ACR (no phone; e-mail only)
Email: richard.mrozinski@sulross.edu (or rhm14fk@sulross.edu) (Will be checked at least once daily)

Teaching Assistant

Name: Barbara Sugarman
Office: RAS 117, Desk 11
Office Hours: MTWR 9:00-10:00; T 3:00-4:00 (Barbara has "open door office hours" as well.)
Phone: (858) 395-6396 (cell, texts are okay when urgent)
Email: bjs17it@sulross.edu or barbarasugarman3@gmail.com (preferred)

Course Description

This course provides fundamental identification skills and an understanding of the life history and habitat requirements of various game and non-game animals.

Course Objectives

To provide the student with an understanding of the fundamental identification skills used in wildlife research and management.

Student Learning Objectives for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management, required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools:

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.
4. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting.
5. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

Class Meeting Time/Place

Time: Tuesday 2:00-3:00, Thursday 2:00-4:00

Place: RAS 130

Text and Supplies

1. The Mammals of Texas by Schmidly and Bradley, 7th Edition (2016) ISBN 978-1-4773-0886-8 (**Recommended**)
2. Mammal Tracks & Sign by Mark Elbroch (2013) ISBN 978-0-8117-2626-9 (**Optional**)
3. Field Guide to the Birds of North America, National Geographic, 7th Edition (2017) ISBN 978-1-4262-1835-4 (**Required – This OR another recent bird field guide**)

Course Grade

Weekly Quizzes	60%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%
Term Project	15%

Overall Grade Assignment

<60 = F, 60-69 = D, 70-79 = C, 80-89 = B, 90-100 = A.

Class Organization and Policy

I expect a high level of engagement in lecture to enhance everyone's learning. This includes interacting with the instructor and other students, asking questions during class, completing outside class assignments and readings, and being prepared to participate in class discussions.

Roll will be taken in each class meeting. The SRSU catalog states "The Instructor will drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences. An absence is defined as nonattendance to 50 minutes of class." Any time class is missed, for any reason, it will be recorded as an absence. College-related events that conflict with class will not be considered an absence ONLY WITH my prior approval.

All lectures will be posted in Blackboard. If you miss class, it is advised you obtain any hand-taken notes from a classmate.

The use of personal laptops, cell phones, iPads, and other electronic devices can create distractions for learning, both for yourself and others. However, such devices can also be great tools to aid learning. Therefore, using electronic devices for class purposes (e.g. taking notes, working out problems, searching the internet) **is allowed in silent mode**. If you choose to use electronic devices in class, do so in a professional manner that does not impede others' learning. **The use of internet-capable devices (e.g. smartphones) is not allowed for quizzes or exams.**

Academic Integrity

On all work submitted for credit by students at the university, the following pledge is either required or implied: **"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."**

Unauthorized aid includes copying, sharing, or obtaining information from an unauthorized source, attempting to take credit for the intellectual work of another person, falsifying information, and giving or receiving information about a test, quiz, or assignment to other students. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive no credit (0) for work done and/or may be penalized in accordance with published University Rules.

Reasonable Accommodations

Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the Student's responsibility to initiate a request. Please contact Ms. Rebecca Greathouse Wren, M.Ed., LPC-S, Director/Counselor, Accessibility Services Coordinator, Ferguson Hall (Suite 112) at 432.837.8203; mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Students should then contact the instructor as soon as possible to initiate the recommended accommodations.

Tentative Course Schedule

Week	Dates	Tuesday Topic	Thursday Topic
1	01/14, 01/16	Class Overview & Introduction	Lecture: Mammals Overview/Tracks Overview
2	01/21, 01/23	Quiz: Intro/Mammals Overview/Tracks Overview	Lecture: Mammals 2/Tracks 2
3	01/28, 01/30	Quiz: Mammals 2/Tracks 2	Lecture: Mammals 3/Tracks 3
4	02/04, 02/06	Quiz: Mammals 3/Tracks 3	Lecture: Mammals 4/Tracks 4
5	02/11, 02/13	Quiz: Mammals 4/Tracks 4	Lecture: Mammals 5/Tracks 5
6	02/18, 02/20	Quiz: Mammals 5/Tracks 5	Lecture: Mammals 6/Tracks 6
7	02/25, 02/27	Quiz: Mammals 6/Tracks 6	Lecture: Birds 1
8	03/03, 03/05	Quiz: Birds 1	Lecture: Birds 2
9	03/10, 03/12	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK	
10	03/17, 03/19	Quiz: Birds 2	Lecture: Birds 3
11	03/24, 03/26	Quiz: Birds 3	Lecture: Birds 4
12	03/31, 04/02	Quiz: Birds 4	Lecture: Birds 5
13	04/07, 04/09	Quiz: Birds 5	Lecture: Reptiles 1
14	04/14, 04/16	Quiz: Reptiles 1	Lecture: Reptiles 2
15	04/21, 04/23	Quiz: Reptiles 2	Lecture: Amphibians
16	04/28, 4/30	Quiz: Amphibians, Final Exam Review	Dead Day
17	5/04	FINAL EXAM: MONDAY 05/04 12:30-2:30 pm	