

LAB SYLLABUS
BIOL 4409/5409 Mammalogy Spring 2020

Instructor: Sean P. Graham, PhD
Laboratory: M 3-450 WSB 107
Office: WSB 221
MC TA: Tomas Hernandez

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Laboratory: Much of the material covered in lecture will be greatly 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. Seeing mammals 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. **Attendance:** is required for labs. No lab make ups are possible. Missing labs will seriously hinder your ability to make good grades on lab practicals, and I and I can drop you from my roll if you miss more than six days of class, including labs. Lab practicals are impossible to re-take. Missing a lab practical will result in a 0 for that test, and this will seriously affect your grade.

Supplies:

- Mammal field guide (optional, but would be a wise investment)
- Binoculars
- Head lamp

Lab Grading:

3 lab practicals @ 100 pts ea	300
Lab notebook @ 50 pts	50

Program 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. Understanding how to incorporate molecular biology into the study of the whole organism.
4. *Demonstrate utilization of various field techniques toward addressing scientific questions in the discipline.*
5. Conduct basic laboratory experiments utilizing standard observational strategies.

Marketable Skills

- 1) Ability to organize, analyze, and interpret data.
- 2) Proficiency in using presentation software.
- 3) Experience in managing time and meeting deadlines.
- 4) Ability to speak effectively and write concisely about scientific topics.
- 5) Experience in the development of professional email correspondence.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

	Date	Topic
<i>Week 1</i>		Introduction: world mammal orders and dental morphology

<i>Week 2</i>		No lab; MLK holiday
<i>Week 3</i>		
		Rat dissection
<i>Week 4</i>		
	Monday, February 03	Local field Trip
	February 7	Saturday field trip: Elephant Mountain WMA
<i>Week 5</i>		
EXAM	Monday, February 10	Practical 1
<i>Week 6</i>		
	Monday, February 17	Local field trip: small mammal trapping
		Weekend Field Trip:
		Synapsid Safari
		Visit the Texas Permian redbeds where ancient ancestors of mammals have been unearthed; visit actual fossil dig site and visit the Whiteside Museum of Natural History. Then, off to Wichita Mountains NWR, Oklahoma, to see bison and longhorn herds, elk, and prairie dogs.
		Friday Feb 21 to Sunday Feb 23
		Trans Pecos mammals: Rodentia, etc.
		Trans Pecos mammals: Rodentia
<i>Spring Break</i>	March 9-13	No classes – Spring break
<i>Week 9</i>		
EXAM	Monday, March 16	Practical 2
<i>Week 10</i>		Trans Pecos mammals: Chiroptera

No Class	Friday, March 30	No class – Good Friday Holiday
<i>Week 11</i>		
	April 4	Saturday field trip: Black Gap WMA
<i>Week 12</i>		
		Trans Pecos mammals: Chiroptera, Misc.
<i>Week 13</i>		
		Trans Pecos mammals: Carnivora, etc.
<i>Week 14</i>		
	Monday, April 20	Local field trip: Prairie dogs, pronghorn, and ground squirrels
		Weekend Field Trip: Big Bend National Park Adventure
		April 17 to April 19
<i>Week 15</i>		
EXAM	Monday, April 27	Practical 3 Last day of lab

Note Topics are subject to change according to course interest, organization, and timing constraints, however the exam dates will remain the same.

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 me, 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.