

Conservation Biology (BIOL*3130)

Winter 2019

Introduction

This course explores the biological basis for the management of wild, living resources from both terrestrial and aquatic systems. This information will be derived from the arenas of biology, ecology, policy, economics, and law. Topics will include an overview of processes related to resource population abundance and dynamics, theory and practice of sustained-yield harvesting, and conservation and restoration of endangered species and/or ecosystems. Both theoretical and applied aspects of resource management will be emphasized. Lectures, discussions, and other in-class activities will introduce information that is relevant to these issues.

Pre-Requisites: BIOL*2060. Students must have completed all prerequisites as described in the UG Academic Calendar.

Instructors

Dr. Andrew MacDougall

Office: MacDougall: 2459 Summerlee Science Complex,

Office Hours: by appointment.

Graduate Teaching Assistants

Meeting Times

T,Th 10:00AM - 11:20AM

Web Site

This course will make extensive use of the course website on courselink. Consequently, **you are responsible for all posted information including lecture material and announcements**; please check regularly.

Evaluation

There will be two in-class tests and one final exam. These will consist of multiple choice and/or short-answer questions, and problem solving.

Midterm 1: 20%, in class

Midterm 2: 30%, in class

Final Exam: 50%

The grading scale follows expectations described in the University of Guelph Undergraduate Calendar. The GTAs and instructors will share grading duties.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend each lecture and be ready to contribute to class discussions. There may be divergent opinions expressed in class – all debate and disagreement must be conducted in a civilized and courteous manner.

Tentative Class Schedule

1. Week One: What is conservation biology?
2. Weeks Two-Six: The Creation and Maintenance of Biodiversity, emphasizing major hypotheses dealing with ecological and evolutionary processes.

3. Week Seven: spring break
4. Week Eight: Threats to Biodiversity
5. Week Nine: Climate change
6. Week Ten: Habitat loss and Fragmentation
7. Week Eleven: Invasive Species
8. Week Twelve-Thirteen: Sustainable Development & Future Challenges

Absence and Illness

If you are absent from classes during the semester, you will be expected to make up missed lecture on your own. When a test is missed, you must notify the instructor as soon as possible. **Tests will NOT be made-up; instead, other tests/exams will be weighted more heavily.** If requesting academic consideration on medical or compassionate grounds, be prepared to provide supporting documentation. Be sure to obtain a written statement of your revised grade evaluation from the instructor. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration:

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Course Evaluation information

End of semester course and instructor evaluations provide students the opportunity to have their comments and opinions form part of the information used by Promotion and Tenure Committees in evaluating the faculty member's contributions in the area of teaching. Course evaluations are now conducted through this web site. Login with your central email account login ID and password. https://courseeval.uoguelph.ca/CEVAL_LOGIN.php. Instructors do **NOT** receive evaluations until the end of exam period. Furthermore, evaluations are anonymous, unless you specifically indicate you want to acknowledge your comments

E-mail Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <mail.uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

Drop Date

Courses that are one semester long must be dropped by the end of the fortieth class day; two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of the add period in the second semester. The regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses are available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student. When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required, however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability. Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance, and not later than the 40th Class Day. More information: www.uoguelph.ca/sas

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>.

All exams in this course utilize that have never been used previously in BIOL*3130 or any related course.

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies and regulations which apply to undergraduate, graduate and diploma programs.