

ZOO 329/329L - Ornithology Course Syllabus Spring 2008

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### **Course Objectives and Goals**

Students will become familiar with the basic biology of birds, including evolution, taxonomy, phylogeny, physiology, anatomy, behavior, and ecology.

### **Required Texts and Materials**

Sibley, David Allen. 2001. The Sibley Guide to Bird Life & Behavior. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

National Geographic Society. 2006. Field Guide to the Birds of North America (5th ed.).

All students are required to download and/or otherwise print the 6 page ZOO 329 Birds of the World document.

All students are required to download and/or otherwise print documents for the laboratory as announced in class.

Downloads (pdf format) available from: <http://www.csupomona.edu/~djmoriarty/orni/>

Each student must have binoculars to use on field trips and in the lab for the campus bird walk.

### **Prerequisite**

ZOO 138/138L or ZOO 201/201L or ZOO 238/238L

### **Exam and Field Trip Schedule**

One midterm will be given in lecture at approximately the fifth week of the quarter (exact time will be announced in class with a minimum of one week lead-time). Final exam is Thursday, June 12, 2008, 9:10 - 11:10 am. Two lab practical exams will be given in laboratory - tentative dates will be announced in class.

Three field trips are offered; students are required to attend at least two. Dates of trips will be announced in class.

### **Grading System and Examination Method**

Point values are: Lecture Midterm exam - 100; Lecture Final exam - 100; Lab Practical 1 - 100; Lab Practical 2 - 100; Field Trips - 100 (50 points each). Total for course is 500 points. Grading will be on a class curve, except that students must earn at least 250 points to receive a passing grade. Lecture exams will be short answer/short essay. Lecture exams may include questions from the assigned readings. Lab practical exams will involve moving from station to station to identify items and answer short questions.

Students are responsible for attending two field trips, even in the event of one trip being cancelled. Students are advised against waiting until the last two trips to attend. If one is cancelled, the student will lose the points. Students may not earn more than 100 points for field trips. If a field trip is cancelled, a message will be placed on (909) 869-4055 by 6:30 am on the day of the trip. Students requesting credit for a field trip that has been cancelled will be assigned a score of -50 (negative fifty) for the trip.

On field trips, students will be graded on participation and cooperation. Students must have the field guide, binoculars, and a notebook to keep a species list and notes. Students must check-in with the instructor when they arrive at the field trip site and demonstrate that they have the required materials. Students failing to keep up with the trip leader(s), and/or participate in observing and learning about the birds will be penalized at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Make-up Exams and Assignments**

Make-up exams are not available. Students who miss an exam should consider a withdrawal from the course or entire quarter as appropriate. If field trips are cancelled, an additional trip may be scheduled at the discretion of the instructor. No extra credit assignments of any type are allowed.

### **Warning, Waiver and Release of Liability**

In order to participate in the field trips, all students must sign the Warning, Waiver and Release of Liability form provided by Risk Management Services of California State Polytechnic University. A sample form is attached.

### **Academic Integrity**

Cheating and plagiarism are violations of university policy and are considered serious offenses. The Department of Biological Sciences takes all incidences of academic dishonesty seriously and acts accordingly.