

WILDLIFE 321 -- PRINCIPLES OF CAPTIVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
SYLLABUS -- FALL SEMESTER 2023

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Shelli A. Dubay, Ph.D.; TNR 325 (346-4178)
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Office Hours: Mon. and Fri. 11:00 am – 12:00 pm and by appointment.

Zoom: <https://uwsp.zoom.us/j/9269849384>

OBJECTIVES: At the end of the course, students should be able to 1) Identify uses of wild animals for human purposes, 2) Explain issues relating to humane treatment of wildlife, 3) Give examples of how captive wildlife contribute to conservation efforts, research, economics, recreation and education, 4) Explain relationships between confinement and diseases, nutrition and behavior, and 5) Understand legislation and regulations relating to the housing, transport and capture of wild animals. This class also provides a foundation for the Captive Wildlife Techniques class and internship involving captive wildlife.

GRADING: Your grade will consist of scores you achieve on 3 exams worth 100 points each and a term paper worth 50 points. The final exam will be comprehensive. Exams consist of essay, short answer, matching and occasional True/False questions. The book only covers a portion of the material that you will see on exams. You can track your grade in Canvas.

LECTURES: Lectures occur at 11 am on Tu, Th in TNR 352

READINGS: Hosey, G., V. Melfi, and S. Pankhurst. 2013. Zoo animals, behavior, management, and welfare, second edition. Oxford University Press, Oxford, United Kingdom, 643 pp. and handouts.

Grading scale

Grade	%	Grade	%	Grade	%
A	92+	B-	80-82	D+	67-69
A-	90-92	C+	77-79	D	63-66
B+	87-89	C	73-76	D-	60-62
B	83-86	C-	70-72	F	≤59

TOPICAL OUTLINE AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	READING
Sept 5	Intro, Roles of Captive Wildlife	Chapter 1, handouts
Sept 7	New model of Zoo value	Handout
Sept 12	Ethics of Captive Wildlife	Section 2.6, Ch. 7
Sept 14	Pain	Box 7.1
Sept 19	Animal Identification	5.1 – 5.5
Sept 21	Wildlife rehabilitation – REGI	Handouts
Sept 26	Animal Learning	Pages 77 – 86, 13.4
Sept 28	Activity budgets, Stress and behavior	Box 7.2, 7.3.2, 7.3.3, 8.3
Oct 3	Behavior continued	Sect. 4.3 – 4.5
Oct 5	Exam I	
Oct 10	Animal Behavior and Enrichment	Ch. 8
Oct 12	Enrichment and Play	Ch. 8
Oct 17	Preventative Medicine	11.4
Oct 19	Diseases	11.5
Oct 24	Catch up	
Oct 26	Reproductive biology/endocrinology	9.1 – 9.4
Oct 31	Signs of parturition	9.1.5, 9.3
Nov 2	Conservation Genetics	handouts
Nov 7	Genetics continued	
Nov 9	Exam II	
Nov 14	Studbooks and SSPs; papers due	9.7
Nov 16	Conservation Strategies, Legislation	Sections 3.2, 3.5, 3.6
Nov. 21	Recorded social structure and communication	
Nov 23	No class – Thanksgiving	
Nov 28	Black-footed ferrets - Travis Livieri	handout
Nov 30	Feeding ecology and Gastrointestinal Tracts	12.1
Dec 5	Nutrition and dietary requirements	12.2, 12.4, 12.8
Dec 7	Conclude Nutrition	12.8
Dec 12	ZAA and regulations	Handouts
Dec 14	Final exam review/Catch up	
Dec 21	Final Examination	Th 10:15 am

I will be using Canvas for class – lectures will be posted in the site regularly.

Learning Outcomes for Wildlife 321

Students completing the course will:

Be familiar with concepts involved with animal welfare, including

- pertinent definitions
- issues relative to animal “rights”

Be able to relate aspects of animal behavior to captive animals, including:

- critical distances
- list and describe abnormal behaviors observed in captive wildlife
- define enrichment and apply the concept to minimize behavioral problems

Describe in detail how reproduction and behavior impact management of captive wildlife

- description of mating systems
- hormonal cycles associated with reproduction
- timing of breeding and parturition
- breeding, post-partum, brooding, and parental care
- conservation genetics concerns

Describe conservation strategies, including

- how genetics, data management, and demographics relate to captive breeding strategies

Describe nutritional provisions for wildlife in captivity, including

- listing essential nutrients and their role in proper function of the organism
- contrasting how trophic levels relate to providing proper nutrition in a captive setting
- list nutritional deficiencies and other problems common in captive settings
- discuss management techniques designed to avoid nutritional problems

Describe how management facilities cope with diseases in captive animals, including

- management techniques to prevent and contain diseases
- listing types of cleaning agents and their properties

Be familiar with legal aspects of captive wildlife management, including

- names and authority of agencies governing care and housing of captive animals
- requirements and compliance guidelines for housing and transporting animals
- basic captive wildlife regulations in Wisconsin