

Course Syllabus: Spring 2007 - 1/8/07
Biology 425: Wildlife and Plant Conservation

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Text: Van Dyke, Fred. 2003. Conservation Biology: Foundations, Concepts, Applications.
 McGraw Hill, New York.

DATE	TOPICS AND READINGS
January 9	Introduction: Expectations, Getting Acquainted
January 11	What is Conservation Biology? Chapter 1: The History and Distinctions of Conservation Biology

January 16	Conservation and the Law- A History of Wildlife Law Chap. 2: The Legal Foundations of Conservation Biology Readings (print your own copies from the web): The Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended available on the web at http://endangered.fws.gov/esa.html Hawaii Revised Statutes: Chapter 195D, Conservation of Aquatic Life, Wildlife and Land Plants (amended 1990) http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/vol03_ch0121-0200d/hrs0195d/hrs_0195d-.htm
January 18	Navigating the Library Norine Yeung, Graduate Student, Dept of Zoology Sara Rutter, Science Librarian Hand out citation worksheet

January 23	Understanding the Endangered Species Act – Critical Habitat, Listing (Section 4), and Interagency Consultation (Section 7)
January 25	The Price of Power: Litigation and the Endangered Species Act Review of the Palila and Snail Darter Cases

January 30	Class exercise: The Evolution of Legal Jargon
February 1	Writing Workshop Citation worksheet, review proposal drafts

February 6	Why Worry? Chap. 3: Values and Ethics in Conservation
February 8	Whose Values Anyway? The God Squad and the Case of the Northern Spotted Owl
** TERM PAPER PROPOSALS ARE DUE Wednesday, 7 February, BY 4:00 PM ** <i>If the proposal is turned in late, you will lose 1 point per working day from your grade for the proposal.</i>	

DATE	TOPICS AND READINGS
February 13	Conservation Science Chap 4: Concept, Measurement and Challenge
February 15	Metapopulations, etc. Chap. 5: The Historic and Foundational Paradigms of Conservation Biology
February 20	Genetics and Conservation Chap. 6: The Conservation of Genetic Diversity
February 22	So What Do We Try To Save? Chap. 7: The Conservation of Populations
February 27	The Bigger Picture Chap. 8: The Conservation of Habitat and Landscape
March 1	Predicting Extinction
March 6	Marine Conservation: Benthic Ecosystems Guest Speaker: Dr. Les Watling Chap. 9: The Conservation of Aquatic Systems
March 8	Marine Conservation: Coral Reef Conservation Guest Speaker: Dr. Charles Birkeland U.S. Fish and Wildlife Cooperative Fishery Research Unit
March 13	Marine Conservation: The Role of Law and Policy Guest Speaker: Dr. Alison Rieser
March 15	Management: Species or Systems? Chap. 10: Ecosystem Management
March 20	<i>Ex situ</i> Conservation: How Do We Justify Captive Propagation? Handout: Endangered Species Interview. Working with your plant group collect, analyze and present (on 4/10) your interview data
March 22	No Class—Zoology Department Tester Graduate Student Symposium
March 26 through March 30 – SPRING BREAK	

***** FIRST DRAFTS OF TERM PAPERS ARE DUE MONDAY, 2 April, 4:00 PM *****
*If the paper is turned in late, you will lose 3 points
per working day from your grade for the paper.*

DATE	TOPICS AND READINGS
April 3	Restoration and Economics in Conservation Chap. 11: Restoration Ecology
April 5	Chap. 12: Conservation, Economics and Sustainable Development Managing Hawai`i's Native Biota and Ecosystems Guest Speaker: Dr. David Duffy, Department of Botany and Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit
April 10	Public Perceptions of Conservation Issues <i>Discussion of results of the Endangered Species Interview</i>
April 12	Conservation Conflicts in Hawai`i: Cultural, Social and Economic Issues Nature, Culture and Astronomy: Mauna Kea and The Wekiu Bug Ahihi-Kinau Natural Area Reserve: Commercial Use or Not?
April 17	Alien Species Problems in Hawaii – Part I
April 19	Alien Species Problems in Hawaii – Part I I
April 24	Endangered Plants I—Endangered Plant Reports Course Evaluations
April 26	Endangered Plants II—Endangered Plant Reports
May 1	Endangered Plants III—Endangered Plant Reports
*** FINAL TERM PAPERS ARE DUE TUESDAY, 1 MAY BY 4:00 PM *** <i>If the paper is turned in late, you will lose 3 points per working day from your grade for the paper.</i>	

EXAMINATIONS

There will be a take-home final examination. You will receive them about a week before they are due. The final is due on **Tuesday, May 8, AT 4:30 pm**. You will probably be answering questions to be selected from a list of options. Answers limited to 750 words each, no exceptions.

COURSE MECHANICS AND REQUIREMENTS

Assignment	Points	Grade Scale
Discussion Assignment*: Leaders	100 points	A = 90% (450+)
Discussion Assignment: Responses	10 points/assignment	B = 80% (400-450)
Paper (Proposal=20 pts)	100 points	C = 70% (350-399)
Endangered Plant Project	100 points	D = 60% (300-349)
Final Exam (take-home)	<u>100 points</u>	
Total Points	500 points	

*There will be 10 discussion assignments.

ASSIGNMENTS

NO EXTRA CREDIT AND NO LATE PAPERS -- *There will be no extra credit assignments. Late assignments will lose points (see term paper guidelines/course requirements).*

E-mail and webCT—I will be using email to communicate with you during the course, so you need to get into the habit of checking often. I will use your UH address. Email is also a way you can let me know if you have any questions or comments on what we do in class. You will need to learn how to log onto the webCT for this course because you will be posting assignments there.

The **Endangered Plant Project** will be a **group** project, with about 4-5 members per group. Grades on this or any other group assignment will be assigned to you as individuals; i.e., there will be no "group" grade. For this assignment each group will make an oral presentation with each student expected to do some part of the presentation. Each student will also write a short paper for this project.

Paper. You will be writing a paper this semester. A proposal for the paper is required to help you get started, and is due on 8 February. The first draft of the paper is due on 4 April and the final draft on 4 May.

Exams. These will both be take-home assignments. Like the other writing assignments, late papers will lose points. A late final will result in either an "I" or an "F."

Occasional Essays. I'll be asking you to write short essays in class from time to time. The topics may be discussions of readings from the textbook, current events, your reactions to issues discussed in class, etc.

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