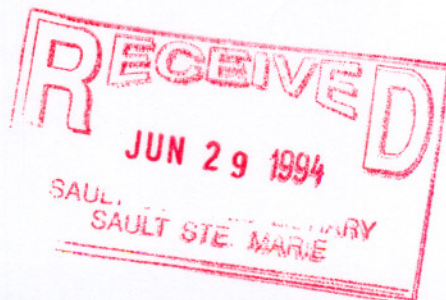


SAULT COLLEGE OF APPLIED ARTS & TECHNOLOGY  
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO WILDLIFE  
CODE NO.: FOR 237-4 SEMESTER: III  
PROGRAM: FISH AND WILDLIFE/RENEWABLE RESOURCE TECHNICIAN  
AUTHOR: HAROLD COOPER  
DATE: NEW PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: N/A

APPROVED: DEAN, SCHOOL OF SCIENCES & NATURAL RESOURCES  
DATE



INTRO TO WILDLIFE

FOR 237-4

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COURSE NAME

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COURSE NUMBER

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 64

PREREQUISITE(S):

I. PHILOSOPHY/GOALS:

A practical introductory course to field identification, life histories and habitat requirements of important Ontario wildlife species. Included will be several field outings focussing on habitat assessment for various species, bird identification, and in interpretation of tracks and sign.

II. STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

- 1) Differentiate between exponential and sigmoid growth curves and describe the factors that affect natality, mortality and stability of fish/wildlife populations.
- 2) Discuss aspects of avian behaviour and basic anatomy.
- 3) Identify visually and by song common Northern Ontario bird species.
- 4) Associate common Ontario upland game birds with their habitat requirements.
- 5) Review mammalian anatomy and physiology.
- 6) Identify important north American mammalian species from slides and study skins.
- 7) Describe the biological life history and habitat requirements of major upland game birds, mammals and fur-bearing mammals.
- 8) Identify the tracks, scats and other signs of common wildlife species.
- 9) Identify important amphibians and reptiles of Ontario and discuss their habitat requirements.
- 10) Discuss principles of wildlife management.
- 11) Demonstrate an understanding of the Ontario Wildlife Strategy.

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III. TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Approximate Time Frames

Unit 1 - Population Growth

2 weeks

- characteristics of a population
- population growth curves
- population stability
- limiting factors

Unit 2 - Avian Anatomy and Physiology

1 week

- identification of structures and function of internal and external features
- specializations unique to the classification of birds

Unit 3 - Avian Identification

2 weeks

- distinguish different binocular designs and list advantages of each
- identification of, using visual key features, approximately 110 common bird species
- identification of, from vocalization approximately 39 common bird species

Unit 4 - Avian Behaviour and Habitat Requirements

2 weeks

- migration, territoriality, nesting behaviour
- habitat requirements for common upland game birds

Unit 5 - Mammalian Anatomy and Physiology

2 weeks

- dissection of mammals with different types of anatomical features
- functions of various organs
- physiology of major systems

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III. TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Approximate Time Frames

Unit 6 - Mammal Identification, Biology and Habitat 2 weeks

- identification of important mammalian species from slides and study skins
- biological life histories and habitat requirements of major upland game mammals and fur-bearing mammals.

Unit 7 - Basic Principles of Wildlife Management 1 week

- wildlife management tools and principle
- wildlife strategy for Ontario and Canada

Unit 8 - Reptiles and Amphibians 1 week

- identification and habitat requirements of important reptiles and amphibians

Unit 9 - Tracks and Signs 1 week

- identification of tracks, scats and other signs of common wildlife species

IV. EVALUATION METHODS:

A final grade will be derived from the results of tests and assignments weighted as follows:

Tests - 70%

Assignments - 30%

Ten percent (10%) may be deducted from any assignment for each day late.

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**IV. EVALUATION METHODS:** (cont'd)

The grading system used will be as follows:

- A+ = 90 - 100%
- A = 80 - 89%
- B = 70 - 79%
- C = 60 - 69%
- R = Less than 60% (Repeat)

Note: There will be no rewrite opportunity at the end of the semester.

**V. REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES:**

Burt, W. H. and R. P. Grossenheider, 1980. A Field Guide to the Mammals, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.

Miller, Dorcas S., 1981. Track Finder, A Guide to Mammal Tracks of Eastern North America Nature Study Guide, Berkely, California.

Peterson, R. T., 1980. A Field Guide to the (Eastern) Birds, 4th ed. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.

**VI. ADDITIONAL RESOURCE MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN THE COLLEGE LIBRARY BOOK SECTION:**

Slides/tapes required for the identification of fish and wildlife species will be available on a reserve basis for library use.

**VIII. SPECIAL NOTES:**

Students with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, learning disabilities) are encouraged to discuss required accommodations confidentially with the instructor.

Your instructor reserves the right to modify the course as he/she deems necessary to meet the needs of students.

Sault College

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