

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

COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO WILDLIFE

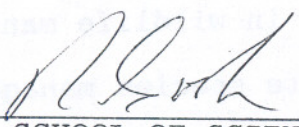
CODE NO.: FOR 237-4 SEMESTER: III

PROGRAM: FISH AND WILDLIFE TECHNICIAN

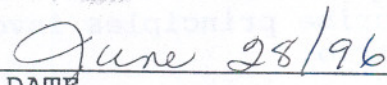
AUTHOR: HAROLD COOPER

DATE: JUNE 1996 PREVIOUS OUTLINE DATED: MARCH 1995

APPROVED:


 DEAN, SCHOOL OF SCIENCES &
 NATURAL RESOURCES

DATE


 JUNE 28/96

INTRO TO WILDLIFE

FOR 237-4

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TOTAL CREDIT HOURS: 64

PREREQUISITE(S):

I. PHILOSOPHY/GOALS:

A practical introductory course to field identification, life histories, habitat requirements and basic management of wildlife species of Ontario. Students will be required to take part in field trips to assist in identification and habitat assessment for birds and mammals. A laboratory component emphasizing anatomy and identification of species is also essential.

II. STUDENT PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:

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

- 1) Differentiate between exponential, J-shaped and sigmoid curves and describe the factors that affect natality, mortality, survival and stability of wildlife populations.
- 2) Dissect and identify anatomical features of birds and mammals.
- 3) Identify visually common Ontario birds and mammals from slides, books, video and study skins.
- 4) Associate common birds and mammals with their habitat requirements.
- 5) Describe basic principles and problems in wildlife management.
- 6) Describe principles involved in wildlife species management in Ontario.
- 7) Demonstrate an understanding of *The Wildlife Strategy for Ontario*.
- 8) Identify the wings of common North American waterfowl.
- 9) Identify skulls and furs on Ontario mammals.

III. TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

Unit 1 - Population Growth:

- * Characteristics of a populations
- * Population growth curves (theoretical and real)
- * Population stability and carrying capacity
- * Factors affecting populations

INTRO TO WILDLIFE

FOR 237-4

COURSE NAME

COURSE NUMBER

III. TOPICS TO BE COVERED: (cont'd)

Unit 2 - Wildlife and Wildlife Management:

- * Values of wildlife
- * The *Wildlife Strategy for Ontario*
- * Historical events in wildlife management
- * Approaches to wildlife management
- * Basic principles of management
- * Biology and management summary of key Ontario species

Unit 3 - Avian Anatomy and Physiology:

- * Identification of avian structures (ANATOMY)
- * Functions of internal and external organs
- * Specializations in structure and function of birds

Unit 4 - Bird Identification:

- * Classifying and identification of about 110 common species of birds from slides, video and study skins
- * Use of field techniques for bird identification

Unit 5 - Avian Behaviour and Habitat Requirements

- * Migration, territoriality, nesting behaviour
- * Habitat requirements of key species

Unit 6 - Mammal Identification Biology and Habitat

- * Identification of about 60 mammalian species from slides, video and study skins
- * Biological life histories, habits and importances of game, fur-bearer, and other mammals common in Ontario

Unit 7 - Practical and Laboratory Sessions

- * Dissection and Anatomy of birds and mammals
- * Identification of waterfowl by whole specimen and by wings
- * Ducks at a distance identification
- * Fur identification
- * Skull identification by keys
- * Check station participation - Deer jaw aging, Trophy scoring
- * Special projects in partnership with resource agencies.
(volunteer activities)

INTRO TO WILDLIFE

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IV. EVALUATION METHODS:

Tests:	3 tests worth 18% each	=	54%
	Assignments	=	15%
	Laboratory work	=	<u>31%</u>
			100%

The grading system used will be as follows:

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

Many projects are self-paced and outcome-based, which means the student must prepare for the tests on their own and pass every test.

V. REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES:

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

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

O.M.N.R. (n.d.) The Moose in Ontario, Toronto, 78 pp.

O.M.N.R. 1992. White Tailed Deer Habitat in Ontario, Background to Guidelines, Wildlife Policy Branch, 40 pp.

Others as assigned.

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

Slides/tapes/videos will be loaned to students on a rotational basis for various assignments.

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.