

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course concentrates on fundamental aspects of anatomy, physiology, and ecology of Ontario birds, Ontario Turtles, Ontario Snakes and Ontario Amphibian species. CICE students with assistance from a learning specialist will take part in Lab sessions and will develop a basic skill level relevant to identification and classification, as well as gaining a rudimentary knowledge and experience with commonly used field inventory techniques.

I LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course, the CICE student, with the assistance of a Learning Specialist, will demonstrate the basic ability to:

1. Identify common Ontario bird species based on visual field marks.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Using specimens examine external and internal avian anatomy
- Identify 35 groups of Ontario birds
- Identify approximately 40 common Ontario bird species, using visual field marks and field guides.
- Explain the ecological/interpretive importance of selected species of birds.
- Identify exotic and controversial bird species and explain their influence on the native fauna.
- Use natural history-related information pertaining to Ontario birds for interpretive purposes.
- Use visual field marks to identify common Ontario bird species from specimens, digital images, video, or field guides
- Identify bird species through connections with their associated preferred habitats

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 40% of the course.

- 2.

Discuss avian biology, ecology and migration behaviour.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Discuss theories related to bird behavior including territoriality and nest building
- Discuss migration, navigation techniques and use of migratory flyways

- Research ecological requirements for selected avian species

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 10% of the course.

3. Conduct field surveys to assess habitat and relative abundance of wildlife populations.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- research habitat requirements for bird species and assess suitability of selected areas
- discuss common survey techniques used in the management of various herptiles and bird species
- follow survey protocols for selected species and calculate the relative abundance using formulae

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 10% of the course.

4. Record, analyze and present field data.

- establish avian feeding stations, recording findings including species presence and food utilization
- completely and accurately fill out field forms for field studies
- analyze collected data using minor statistics
- present findings from field surveys in a report format

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 15% of the course.

5. Identify selected amphibians and reptiles, with special ecological and interpretive value.

Potential Elements of the Performance:

- Define the characteristics of each of the 5 wetland classes and discuss their ecological importance
 - Relate the factors contributing to wetland loss and amphibian decline on Ontario
 - Summarize prominent environmental monitoring programs involving herptiles in Ontario

- Identify using images and vocalizations recordings common to Ontario amphibians
- Discuss the ecological/interpretative importance of amphibians
- Identify using images of common turtles and snakes of Ontario
- Discuss ecological/interpretative importance of herptiles

This learning outcome will constitute approximately 25% of the course.

III. TOPICS:

1. Bird Classification and Identification.
2. Biology/Physiology, Morphometry
3. Ecology of Birds, Reptiles and Amphibians
4. Field Surveying

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

1. Peterson, Roger Tory Peterson A Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern North America – available in the Bookstore
2. Cornell Lab of Ornithology Website – available on library e-books
3. Harding, James H. Amphibians and Reptiles of the Great Lakes Region (Great Lakes Environment) 1997, Univeristy of Michigan Press available in bookstore
4. Hardhat, safety boots, reflective vest.
5. Lab coat, dissecting kit – available at bookstore

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Lab Tests/Assignments	75%
Field Survey	10%
Report	15%
100%	

Lab assignments and report values will be reduced at a rate of 10% per day for late submissions for a period of 10 days after the due date, after which they will not be accepted. After 10 days assignment/report value will be zero.

All labs and assignments must be completed to pass the course. Students that miss labs and/or tests must have a valid, documented excuse in order to participate in a make up test/assignment.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

Grade

Definition	Grade Point Equivalent	
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
D	50 – 59%	1.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00

CR (Credit) Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.

S Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.

U Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.

X A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.

NR Grade not reported to Registrar's office.

W Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Attendance:

Sault College is committed to student success. There is a direct correlation between academic performance and class attendance; therefore, for the benefit of all its constituents, all students are encouraged to attend all of their scheduled learning and evaluation sessions. This implies arriving on time and remaining for the duration of the scheduled session.

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

Further modifications may be required as needed as the semester progresses based on individual student(s) abilities and must be discussed with and agreed upon by the instructor.

CICE Modifications:**Preparation and Participation**

1. A Learning Specialist will attend class with the student(s) to assist with inclusion in the class and to take notes.
2. Students will receive support in and outside of the classroom (i.e. tutoring, assistance with homework and assignments, preparation for exams, tests and quizzes.)
3. Study notes will be geared to test content and style which will match with modified learning outcomes.
4. Although the Learning Specialist may not attend all classes with the student(s), support will always be available. When the Learning Specialist does attend classes he/she will remain as inconspicuous as possible.

A. Tests may be modified in the following ways:

1. Tests, which require essay answers, may be modified to short answers.
2. Short answer questions may be changed to multiple choice or the question may be simplified so the answer will reflect a basic understanding.
3. Tests, which use fill in the blank format, may be modified to include a few choices for each question, or a list of choices for all questions. This will allow the student to match or use visual clues.
4. Tests in the T/F or multiple choice format may be modified by rewording or clarifying statements into layman's or simplified terms. Multiple choice questions may have a reduced number of choices.

B. Tests will be written in CICE office with assistance from a Learning Specialist.***The Learning Specialist may:***

1. Read the test question to the student.
2. Paraphrase the test question without revealing any key words or definitions.
3. Transcribe the student's verbal answer.
4. Test length may be reduced and time allowed to complete test may be increased.

C. Assignments may be modified in the following ways:

1. Assignments may be modified by reducing the amount of information required while maintaining general concepts.
2. Some assignments may be eliminated depending on the number of assignments required in the particular course.

The Learning Specialist may:

1. Use a question/answer format instead of essay/research format
2. Propose a reduction in the number of references required for an assignment
3. Assist with groups to ensure that student comprehends his/her role within the group
4. Require an extension on due dates due to the fact that some students may require additional time to process information
5. Formally summarize articles and assigned readings to isolate main points for the student
6. Use questioning techniques and paraphrasing to assist in student comprehension of an assignment

D. Evaluation:

Is reflective of modified learning outcomes.