Syllabus for Introduction to Wildlife of North America
Instructor Deborah Bird
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Bio 115
Instructor Deborah Bird

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**Syllabus for Introduction to Wildlife of North America**

**Instructor Deborah Bird**

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**Bio 115 Wildlife of North America - Traditional**

**CRN 22247**

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**Course Syllabus for Spring Semester 2009**

**Instructor:** Deborah Bird

**Mailing Address:** Deborah Bird/Adjunct Faculty Office  
Pima Community College  
East Campus  
8181 E. Irvington Rd. 85709-4000

**Turning in Assignments:** Papers and assignments should be turned in during classroom time on the date the assignment is due. The Adjunct Faculty Office on East Campus can also be used to turn in papers. Have the staff stamp your papers with the date to insure meeting deadlines. You will not lose points if assignments are handed in on the day due, **but you will lose 5% of total points for every day the assignment is late except on Sunday** when the Adjunct Faculty Office in Building E5 is not open. (See map on last page or go to [http://www.pima.edu/maps/index.shtml?map=3](http://www.pima.edu/maps/index.shtml?map=3)  
If the Adjunct faculty Office is closed there is a slot in which you can leave papers. Make sure you have my name on the paper.

**Phone:** Leave a message at 903-9038. Talk slowly and leave your phone number.

**E-Mail:** deborahbirdus@yahoo.com or dbird@pima.edu

**Pima Web Site:** [http://ecc.pima.edu/~dbird](http://ecc.pima.edu/~dbird)  
The web site is under repair this semester for this course. I will be handing out all assignments in class. **Do not print assignments off the web site. You may not be getting the most recent version.**

**Attendance:** I do not take attendance, but there is usually some work for points in almost every class and these points cannot be made up.

**Prerequisites:** None. Each of you needs to examine your work and family responsibilities to determine whether you are prepared to undertake the time commitments for this course

**Course Outline:**

I. Science  
   I I Habitats and Components  
      A. Components
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B. Utilization by wildlife

I I I. Wildlife Origins
   A. Natural Selection and Evolution
   B. Immigration and Introduction

IV. Wildlife Diversity
   A. Invertebrates
   B. Vertebrates

Important Dates
Go to www.pima.edu/calendars for more information on the following list of important dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 20</td>
<td>SPRING CLASSES BEGIN (Traditional Semester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 26</td>
<td>SPRING: 1st 8-week Session - Add/Drop/Refund/Audit Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>All Day Rodeo Holiday (College Closed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 5</td>
<td>SPRING: 45th Day (Census Day) of the Semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 16</td>
<td>March 16-22 Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 23</td>
<td>All Day SUMMER REGISTRATION Begins: In-Person/All Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 9</td>
<td>All Day SPRING: Student Withdrawal Deadline for 16-week Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>All Day SPRING: Final Exam Week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Important Dates for the class.
Exam dates may change. This is a tentative schedule.

Exam 1 Feb. 12 (Thursday) All exams will be held in the classroom.
Exam 2 March 5 (Thursday) Exams will begin at the beginning of class.
Exam 3 April 2 (Thursday) There will be time for questions at the beginning of the class.
Exam 4 April 30 (Thursday) You will have 90 minutes to take an exam.
Exam 5 May 21 (Thursday)

Area to write other important dates for the class
Incomplete: For a student to receive an incomplete 80% of the course work must be completed. This means 80% of testing (4 exams have been taken) and 80% of lab work. The student will also have to meet with me to discuss this option.

Withdraw: The last day to withdraw from this course is April 9th. If a student fails to attend class, or fails to withdraw herself/himself from the course, the student will be issued the grade earned based on the number of accumulated points unless a W is requested by the student. Request a W in writing.

Plagiarism: If plagiarism is suspected, you will be called in to discuss your writing with the instructor. Everyone must write their own personal papers. Any person caught plagiarizing from any source will receive a zero for that assignment.

Ethics: Breaches in scholastic ethics will be dealt with severely. Students caught cheating or attempting to cheat will receive a zero for that test or assignment. See the student handbook for more information on ethics.


Textbook: Ecology: Concepts and Applications (3rd edition) by Manuel C. Molles Jr. This book is available in the East Campus Bookstore. There will be a number of lab assignments from the book and 80% of all exam material is from the text.

Course Description: Introduction to the mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and selected invertebrates of North America. This course includes habitats, wildlife
relationships, population dynamics, and discussion of national, state, and private wildlife agencies. The laboratory emphasis will be on Arizona natives.

**Performance Objectives:**

1. Describe diversity and origins of wildlife in North America
2. Explain the importance of habitat to wildlife.
3. Describe how wildlife have adapted to various habitat types and each other.
4. Describe how and why wildlife populations change over time.
5. Discuss the role of wildlife agencies and legislation in wildlife management.
6. Apply wildlife principles to interpret personal observations of wildlife.
7. Demonstrate skills necessary for life long learning and making personal decisions relative to wildlife biology and management.

“In order to determine whether the course is meeting the above-stated objectives, a variety of assessment techniques will be used. These may include, but are not limited to, short answers regarding the comprehension of the material, pre and post tests, group or individual oral reports, discussions, brainstorming, case studies, posters, interviews, demonstrations, of laboratory techniques, a portfolio, a journal and a capstone experience. The purpose of using these assessment instruments is to assist you instructor in improving this course.

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**Grading Policy**

The course is divided into two equal parts consisting of lecture and lab. Lecture points equal your exams. Lab points equal all of the other activities besides exams. **One-half** of your final grade is calculated from exam scores and the other **one-half** is from lab points. **Grades:** The final percentage including the lecture and lab points will determine the grade. An A = 90.0 to 100%, a B = 80.0 to 89.9%, a C= 70.0 to 79.9%, a D = 60.0 to 69.9%, and an F = 0 to 59.9%.

**Lecture points from Exams**
Each exam is worth 100 points. These exams are taken from the textbook material except for test 1 which is from a handout passed out in class. You need a textbook to study for these exams. The chapters refer to the chapters in your text book. Your total test points will be divided by 500 to determine your % for the lecture part of the grade.

Test 1 - The Scientific Method and Statistics (Statistics Handout and Science and Scientific Method Handout)
Test 2 - Chapter 1 What is Ecology?
Chapter 2 Life on the Land
Chapter 3 Life in the Water
Test 3 - Chapter 4 Temperature Relations
Chapter 5 Water relations
Chapter 6 Energy and Nutrient Relations
Test 4 - Chapter 7 Social Relations
Exams will be given in the classroom about every three weeks (See important dates). The rules of the Testing Center apply to the testing atmosphere in the classroom. I have included the rules from the testing center. *Use common sense when applying these rules to the classroom.*

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**STUDENT TESTING PROCEDURES**

Welcome to the Instructional Testing Center! It is hoped that all students find this unique testing service to be convenient and user-friendly. The following Testing Procedures have been approved by the East Campus Administration of Pima Community College and must be followed in order to take exams in the Center. The course instructor utilizing the Center or the Testing Center staff can provide copies of the Testing Procedures. These procedures are necessary to provide an effective and secure walk-in testing service that meets the needs of the diverse East Campus Community. **ALL STUDENTS USING THE TESTING CENTER ARE REQUIRED TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THESE TESTING PROCEDURES PRIOR TO REQUESTING EXAMS.** All questions will be answered in detail by the staff. The Instructional Testing Center staff reserves the right to amend this document.

- **PHOTO IDENTIFICATION IS REQUIRED:** A PCC student ID card is preferred but not required. The Testing Center staff shall retain sole discretion as to whether or not identification presented is acceptable. Notes from instructors or staff are **NOT** acceptable.

- **STUDENTS WHO NEED SPECIAL TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS:** Students who need special accommodations such as extended test time, assistance of reader/writer or materials in an alternative format, must set up a file in the Disabled Student Resources Office (L-231, phone 206-7699).

- **REQUESTING EXAMS:** Students will be admitted for testing with only one exam at a time although they may test throughout the day. **In order to obtain an exam, students are required to know the following:**
  - Their PCC Student Number
  - The name of their course instructor
  - The course in which they are enrolled
  - The exam number they require
  - Students are to provide pens, pencils, and/or erasers

- **CELL PHONES ARE NOT ALLOWED:** If a cell phone, pager or any unapproved electronic device rings or is used for any reason during the testing process, the exam will be terminated.

Students request an exam, present identification, sign in, and then obtain a locker key to secure personal belongings. To check out a locker, students are to leave his/her picture I.D. with the testing staff. Students may place items too large for a locker on the shelf prior to entering the testing room. Students not wishing to use the shelves or the lockers may not leave their belongings in the testing room or office. Pima Community College is not responsible for lost, stolen, or abandoned items.

Students may also bring into the testing room and use only materials specifically authorized in writing on the exam by the course instructor. This may include items such as calculators, textbooks, notebooks, books, notes, note cards, crib sheets, scratch paper, dictionaries, etc. Test-takers may use only the scratch/graph/other paper provided in the testing room or with their exam and may not, under any circumstance, use their own material unless it has been authorized by the course instructor and inspected by the testing center staff. Test-takers may not share materials during exams. **PLEASE NOTE:** Use of the Testing Center constitutes the test-taker's implied consent to the staff's inspection of any item(s) taken into and/or out of the testing room. Personal items such as a caps, sweaters, coats, etc. taken into the testing room must remain off the desktop at all times. Earplugs are recommended for students sensitive to noise. No other items are allowed in the testing room.

At the completion of the exam, students are to discard or attach all scratch paper(s) to the exam. Materials such as note cards and/or crib sheets used during the exam must be stapled and turned in. The staff is not responsible for stapling students' work to exams. Students may not remove paper(s) of any kind from the Testing Center.

- **GENERAL INFORMATION:**
  - While the Testing Center staff makes every effort to ensure that students are issued correct exams, errors sometimes occur. Students must make sure that they have received the correct exam and bring any errors to the immediate attention of the staff.
  - Test-takers may see the staff if there is a question about the exam. Test-takers may not ask a classmate.
  - Once an exam has been issued, students are not to remain in the office for any reason but must proceed immediately into the testing room and begin. Students in possession of an exam may not talk to anyone except the staff, regardless of whether they are in the testing room or office area.
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- Students are responsible for observing all time limits indicated in writing on the exam. The Testing Center staff will indicate the start date and time and the end date and time on all exams but will not be responsible for ensuring that students observe time limits imposed by the instructor.
- Students should not leave their seats until they have checked their work and are ready to turn in their test. Once a student has exited the testing room, the test must be turned in immediately. Students may not leave the area until the staff collects their exam.
- Breaks during exams are not allowed. **IF A TEST-TAKER MUST LEAVE THE TESTING ROOM, THE EXAM MUST BE SURRENDERED AND WILL NOT BE REISSUED WITHOUT INSTRUCTOR APPROVAL.**
- Test-takers should not sit near classmates taking the same exam unless there are no other seats available because the staff may relocate the students.
- Test-takers should keep work confined to one desk only. Furniture should not be moved for any reason. Aisles must remain free of clutter at all times.
- When finished, test-takers are not to discuss the exam with or within earshot of anyone who has not tested yet. Test-takers should not permit anyone to discuss the exam with them.
- In the event that all seats in the testing room are occupied, students will be given numbers and seated in the order in which they came to the Center. Students who do not immediately respond when their number is called will be bypassed and required to take a new number.
- Students not admitted for testing for any reason will be given a written "Gold Slip" to give to their instructor explaining why they were not admitted.
- Children are not allowed in the testing room nor are they permitted to remain unattended in the office. Please make babysitting arrangements prior to coming in for an exam.
- All tests must be turned in at closing time -- completed or not.
- Food, water bottles, beverages, tobacco, candy, personal stereo, walkie-talkies, pets/animals (except assistance animals), etc are not permitted in the testing room.
- **EXAMS REQUESTED LAST HOUR OF TESTING:** Tests will not issued during the last hour before closing. Exams issued after an instructor's deadline has passed will be marked as such and may or may not be accepted by the instructor. Any exam deadline information recorded on the Testing Center deadline calendar is unofficial and subject to change without notice. Official exam deadline information must be obtained from the course instructor. Students are encouraged to not wait until the last minute before their deadline or last test times because they may not get in for or have time to complete their exam. Students still waiting after the last hour of testing cannot be seated even if they are still holding a number.
- All students are expected to know and comply at all times with the College Student Code of Conduct and Code of Academic Ethics. Copies of these documents may be obtained from the Office of the Dean of Student Development. All students are, in addition, required to conduct themselves in a quiet, orderly fashion and cooperate with the Testing Center staff at all times. Violation(s) of the College Student Code of Conduct, the Code of Academic Ethics, and/or the Testing Center Student Testing Procedures will not be tolerated and will be reported in writing to the course instructor and the Division Dean. The course instructor will determine the course of action to be taken. Testing privileges may be suspended for cause. Incidents of a serious and/or disruptive nature may also be reported to the P.C.C. Department of Public Safety (Campus Police).

**Lab Points**

Lab points are earned through a number of different types of assignments. Lab points will total **around** 1000 points but remember this is one-half of your grade. The lab points will consist of laboratory work, homework assignments, video worksheets and assignments which includes and other assignments. Remember you will be earning points almost every day with some sort of assignment in class. These labs are not listed in the order they will be presented. There will be other lab work not listed (in the process of writing).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lab</th>
<th>Some labs will be working on in the classroom and others will be homework. These labs are to help with test preparation.</th>
<th>points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>What is Ecology and scientific method?</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Life on Land-climate diagrams and PDSI</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Global ecology</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Endangered Specie Notebook</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Action or Editorial</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildlife in Local News</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Person or Organization</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Social Services: Any student with special learning needs should contact Disabled Student resources on campus for assistance. If any student has any special needs please contact me as soon as possible about those needs.

Electronic Devices: As a courtesy please turn off or switch to silent any electronic devices you are carrying with you during class time. If your electronic equipment begins to disturb the classroom learning atmosphere, I will request that you put your electronic equipment away or leave the class for the day. If you are asked to leave you cannot make up the points.