About the Instructor
Dr. Neil P. Bernstein
Dept. of Natural and Applied Sciences
Biology Program
Mount Mercy University
1330 Elmhurst Drive NE.
Cedar Rapids, IA. 52402-4797
415 Basile Hall
Office: 319-363-8213 x1270
Fax: 319-363-5270
nbernstein@mtmercy.edu
http://www.mtmercy.edu/academics/majors/biology/biology-faculty/bernstein-neil.html

Academic Course Home
University College—Iowa Lakeside Laboratory
http://www.lakesidelab.org
Director: Chet Rzonca
E-mail: chet-rzonca@uiowa.edu
Phone: 319.335.2575

Course Description: The biology, ecology, and behavior of birds with emphasis on field studies of local avifauna. Group projects stress techniques of population analysis and methodology for behavioral, ecological, and populations studies. Fundamentals of bird biology, anatomy, and physiology will be covered along with dissection and taxonomy.

Pre-requisites: Course in introductory biology; introductory ecology and evolution suggested but not required; or permission of instructor

Assignments:
Course Objectives: Basic bird identification and classification, basic bird biology adaptations, introduction to studies in ecology, behavior, and population monitoring.

Required Course Materials:
Textbook to Purchase: Check titles carefully! Recent editions required!

Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America (Peterson Field Guides) Paperback – (REQUIRED)


Prior to your arrival, books may be ordered from the vendor of your choice or from a local bookstore. Books are not available at the field station. Purchase before arriving as you will need them on the first morning.

Course Requirements: Courses at Iowa Lakeside Laboratory are inquiry-based in structure, typically consisting of a mix of lectures, exercises, field trips, and projects designed to teach students essential aspects of a particular topic and the process of forming and answering scientific questions about that topic. Teaching is often by the Socratic Method with an emphasis on interaction between student and teacher.

Required Additional Equipment/Supplies: Prior to arrival, you will need a good, working pair of 7 x 35 or 8 x 40 center-focus binoculars. Call instructor for help if you need to make a purchase. Small, compact, hunting
binoculars, binoculars or binoculars that have not been used recently are strongly discouraged. A 10 x 40 binocular is acceptable. Required: A pouch, pocket, fanny pack, or sling to hold a field guide. Instructor can provide help in how to make one. In addition, you will find the following useful: sunglasses, broad brimmed hats, insect repellent, sun shield, rain gear, several changes of shoes (tennis shoes or boots), or an old pair of shoes that you don’t mind getting wet. Rubber boots are nice on mornings with heavy dew, but don’t make a special purchase.

**Course Grade:** Examinations are both formal and informal. Formal written examinations typically consist of mainly essay questions. Laboratory and field examinations occur in most courses. There will be a mix of papers and worksheets throughout the course along with graded discussion of readings. Details will be provided.

**Course Schedule:**
All Lakeside courses are immersion-based; students take one course at a time and meet or have assignments from 8 am to 5 pm, five days per week. Activities each day for all courses are determined by a combination of weather, topic, general understanding of the subject matter, and other considerations, but are ultimately designed to most effective meet course goals. There are evening lectures at the field station, and we will be doing a few evening activities.

**Policies and Instructions:**
As a registered student in a Distance Education course through The University of Iowa, you are responsible for the policies and instructions posted below.

**Special Modifications:** If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in University of Iowa Continuing Education courses or programs, please contact Student Disability Services: 3015 Burge Hall, (319) 335.1462, or sds-information@uiowa.edu, or fax: (319) 335.3973. Reasonable accommodations for students with physical, mental, or learning disabilities will be made. The Division of Continuing Education is committed to both Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Section 508 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

**Academic Misconduct:** All forms of plagiarism and any other activities that result in a student presenting work that is not his or her own are academic fraud. All academic fraud is reported to the departmental DEO and the Associate Dean of Continuing Education. All incidents of academic misconduct (plagiarism and cheating) will be subject to the rules and regulations of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences as defined and stated in the Academic Policies Handbook (http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook).

In this class, students are not allowed to collaborate with others on assignments. Do not share your work with others or ask others to see their completed assignments since both are considered academic misconduct. If you need help, please contact the instructor by email. Students are responsible for understanding this policy; if you have questions, ask for clarification.

**Understanding Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Visit this site (http://www.sexualharassment.uiowa.edu/) for definitions, assistance, and the full University policy.

**Complaint Procedures:** If at any time you have concerns about this class or your performance in it, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact the Department Chair (contact information provided at the top of page one of this syllabus). If you still
do not feel that your concern has been resolved satisfactorily, you may contact University College, 310 Calvin Hall, (319) 335-1497, uc-academics@uiowa.edu. All complaints must be made within six months of the incident.

**Administrative Home of the Course:** The administrative home of this course is the University College (UC), which governs academic matters relating to the course such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, issues concerning academic fraud or academic probation, and how credits are applied for various graduation requirements. Different colleges might have different policies. If you have questions about these or other UC policies, contact your academic advisor or the Division of Continuing Education, 250 Continuing Education Facility, (319) 335-2575, dce-registration@uiowa.edu. As a registered student in a Distance Education course through The University of Iowa, you are responsible for the policies and instructions as posted online: http://uc.uiowa.edu/students/admitted-university-college-programs/academic-standards.