Instructor: Dr. Robert C. Dowler
Office: Cavness 020
Office Hours: MWF 10-12; any modifications will be posted on my office door.
Telephone: 325-486-6639
E-mail: robert.dowler@angelo.edu
Lab Assistant: Ashlyn Kildow

Text Books/Course Materials:


Dissection Kit—you are welcome to bring your own dissecting tools; however, we will have some for your use in the lab for preparing study skins of mammals.

Optional Texts—if you are thinking of a career in mammalogy, these should be added to your personal library.


STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: The primary goal of this course is to give an overview of mammalogy, the study of mammals. This will be achieved, in part, through the presentation of information on our current understanding of the biology and classification of mammals, their evolutionary history, and the methodology used to study mammals. Students successfully completing this course should have a broad understanding of the field of mammalogy.

METHODS OF ASSESSING STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Knowledge of Student Learning Outcomes will be assessed as multiple choice, fill-in, or discussion questions on examinations.

Tentative Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26 AUG</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Mammalogy as a science; history of mammalogy, mammalian characteristics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 SEP</td>
<td>5, 7</td>
<td>Mammalian characteristics-skull and dentition; mammal origins;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 SEP</td>
<td>6, 11</td>
<td>Zoogeography; reproduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 SEP</td>
<td>4 (+ 237-40), 12</td>
<td>Ordinal classification; Monotremes, Marsupials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 SEP</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Chiroptera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 SEP</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Chiroptera (cont.), LECTURE EXAM I --- 3 OCT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7 OCT  14  Shrews, moles, tenrecs, tree shrews, elephant shrews and others
14 OCT  14, 15  Primates
21 OCT  16  Cingulata, Pilosa, Pholidota, Tubulidentata
28 OCT  18  Rodentia
4 NOV  18  Rodentia (continued)
11 NOV  17  Lagomorpha  LECTURE EXAM 14 NOV;
18 NOV  17  Carnivora
25 NOV  19  Proboscidea, Hyracoidea, Sirenia (THANKSGIVING BREAK)
2 DEC  20, 21  Perissodactyla, Artiodactyla, Cetacea

COMPREHENSIVE FINAL-THURSDAY - DECEMBER 12, 8:00 A.M.

----------------------------------MAMMALOGY LAB SCHEDULE----------------------------------
COURSE POLICIES

GRADING: The course grade will be based on two lecture exams, three lab practicals, field trip participation, specimen preparation, quizzes, and a comprehensive final.

Lecture exams (2 X 100=200 pts)
Lab exams (2 X 100; 1 X 150; =350 pts)
Field trip participation – field notes – iNaturalist project (100 pts)
Quizzes (100 pts)
Specimen/Skeleton preparation (100 pts)
Comprehensive final exam (150 pts)

Final course grade will be based on the following:
A = 900+ B = 800 – 899 C = 700 – 799 D = 600 – 699 F = < 600

SPECIMEN PREPARATION (DUE DATE: 11 NOVEMBER)

Each student will prepare 10 specimens of mammals, of which one will be a medium-sized mammal. Mammal specimens will be provided or collected on field trips. An articulated skeleton is an option rather than the specimen preps.

FIELD TRIPS: Two or more overnight or weekend field trips will be taken during the semester. Students are required to attend one of these. There will be additional opportunities for local field collecting trips if arrangements cannot be made to attend the longer trips. The field trip participation grade will be based in part on turning in field notes from one of these trips. An iNaturalist project will be set up on the web for this course. Students will be required to log 10 mammal observations during the semester. Details on dates and locations of the field trips and the procedures for both field notes and the iNaturalist project will be given in class.

One possible zoo trip is being planned--either to the Abilene Zoo, San Antonio Zoo, or Ft. Worth Zoo.

ATTENDANCE: Attendance in this course is important. Attendance records will be maintained for university purposes. To do well in this course you should attend all classes unless you are ill or have family emergencies.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in the web version of the Student Handbook. My policy for cheating on an exam is to give a grade of zero on the exam and to provide your name and details of the incident to the department head. You should understand that your loss of credibility on any future (or past) work is the worst penalty for cheating on an exam.

CELL PHONE USE IN CLASS: Use of cell phones for texting or social media will not be permitted during class periods. If you text in class, you will be asked to leave.

MAKE-UP EXAMS: Make-up exams will be given only in emergency situations which preclude class attendance. Arrangements for excused make-up exams should be made prior to the scheduled date of the exam, unless it is a health emergency, in which case you should contact me by the first class following the absence.
**DISABILITIES:** Persons with disabilities that may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request and to implement academic accommodations.

**RELIGIOUS HOLY DAY:** A student who intends to observe a religious holy day during the semester should make that intention known in writing to the instructor during the first week of the semester and one week prior to the absence. If this submission is completed, a student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take make up missed exams or assignments scheduled for that day in accordance with syllabus policy.

**PERSONAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS COURSE:** As with many courses in biology, the study of mammalogy has many inherent risks. Because you will have the opportunity to work with live and preserved animals, and to participate in field work, there will be risks not encountered in many other courses at Angelo State University. I will make every effort to minimize the risks and provide information to minimize exposure to hazards; however, you should be aware that hazards exist in this course. If you have concerns about participating in any of the exercises in this course, I will make other options available to you so that you can meet the requirements of the course. You will be asked to sign a release waiver to fully participate in the course. Additional information concerning this will be provided in class.