



Biology 3454 Sec 001 – General Zoology Spring 2010

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M/W/F 11:00-12:00, LS 118



<http://www.natureboy.com>

Prerequisites: General Zoology is a major's course in the Biology Undergraduate Teaching Program. Cell and Molecular Biology (Biol. 1441) and Structure and Function of Organisms (Biol. 1442) or their transferred equivalents must have been taken by a student before enrolling for this course. All students who do not have the appropriate prerequisite courses should drop this course and take Biol. 1441 and/or 1442 as necessary or, if they are not Biology Majors, an appropriate non-majors Biology course such as Biol. 2311 (Man and Environment), Biol. 2317 (Human Sexuality), or Biol. 1301 (Nutrition) should be taken.

As the material presented in General Zoology will be basic to many upper division Biology Major's courses, instructors in those courses will assume that you have the foundation of zoological knowledge covered in this course.

Description of course content:

Lecture: The General Zoology course is designed to introduce students to the study of zoology at the organismal and organ function levels. The lecture section of the course will review the general principles of modern zoological theory and provide the student with an introduction to the recent advances in zoology in the areas of systematics, evolution, reproduction, development, animal diversity, and animal ecology. The lectures will reinforce and occasionally expound on subjects covered by assigned reading in the textbook. Supplementary info and material may be made available at the website <http://www.natureboy.com>. However, i do not post notes. *You will need to take notes in class.*

Laboratory: The laboratory section of the course is designed to allow students to become familiar with the form and function of major animal phyla through observation of living animals, study of prepared slides, examination of model specimens and museum mounts and dissection of preserved specimens. The laboratory will allow students to become familiar with animal classification and systematics. The beginning of each laboratory period will be devoted to a discussion of the form, function and classification of the animal groups covered in that laboratory exercise. The remaining portion of the laboratory exercise will be devoted to the examination of living and preserved specimens. Students should come to laboratory equipped with a dissecting kit, their Laboratory Note Book and Lecture Text, and a #2 pencil for laboratory drawings and labeling of diagrams provided in the Laboratory Notebook. A dissecting kit can be purchased from the UTA Bookstore and would be equivalent to that used in the laboratory of the Structure and Function of Organisms (Biol. 1442) course.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The specific learning goals for General Zoology are to provide students with a working knowledge of fundamental principles in zoology that will provide a foundation for their later advanced course work in more specific biological subjects. Thus, this course will provide students with an opportunity to gain information regarding animal classification and systematics, animal structure and function relationships, evolution between and within major animal groups, human evolution and animal reproduction and development. As General Zoology is a basic course, students will become familiar with animal classification schemes and associated taxonomic group diagnostic characteristics as well as developing an understanding of and ability to apply basic zoological principles. The laboratory and lecture sections of the course are highly integrated and directed toward teaching students the principles of animal evolution, classification, form and function.

Required texts:

INTEGRATED PRINCIPLES OF ZOOLOGY, 14th ed., C. P. Hickman, L. S. Roberts, A. Larson, and H. I'Anson.
GENERAL ZOOLOGY LABORATORY MANUAL, STEPHEN MILLER.

Laboratory supplement available through phi sigma.

optional: A PHOTOGRAPHIC ATLAS FOR THE ZOOLOGY LABORATORY, 4th ed. K. M. Van De Graaff and J. L. Crawley.
This optional text contains labeled photographs of many of the specimens that will be studied in the laboratory. It should prove very useful to students in completing their laboratory exercises and preparing for laboratory exercises and is **strongly recommended**.

Lecture Topics:

(There is a class calendar available on www.natureboy.com)

TOPIC	
INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL LIFE	
Introduction, Evolution, and Classification	chapters 1,6, and various other stuff
ANIMAL STRUCTURE, FUNCTION AND CLASSIFICATION	
Porifera	chapter 12
Cnidaria and Ctenophora	chapter 13
Acoelomates (Platyhelminthes)	chapter 14
Test 1	
other Pseudocoelomates / lophotrochozoa	chapter 15
Annelida	chapter 17
Mollusca	chapter 16
Ecdysozoa, nematoda	chapter 18
Arthropoda	chapter 19,20,21
Test 2	
Echinodermata and Hemichordates	chapter 22
Chordates	chapter 23
Fishes	chapter 24
Amphibians	chapter 25
Mammals	chapter 28
Reptiles	chapter 26
Test 3	
Birds	chapter 27

Grading policy:

Lecture Grading: The lecture portion of the course will account for **60% of the final grade**. The tests in the lecture portion of the course will consist of multiple choice questions. There will be three semester tests, together accounting for **45%** of the lecture grade or 15 points each of the final grade out of 100 points. The final examination will consist of around 50 questions, and will be comprehensive over the entire semester. The final examination will account for count like a regular test, but will also replace your lowest test grade (grades of zero will not be replaced). **All students will be required to provide their own Scantron form 882-ES answer sheets and #2 pencils for each examination. Scantron answer sheets can be purchased at the University Bookstore.**

Laboratory Grading: The laboratory portion of the course will account for **40% of the final grade**. This grade will come from a combination of unannounced lab quizzes, occasional lab hand-ins, two practical tests, and the laboratory notebook. Laboratory grading will be fully described in an outline to be given out during the first laboratory period.

Course Grading Summary:

Source of Grade	Percentage of the Final Grade
Lecture Tests 1-3	45%
Laboratory Grade	40%
Final Examination	15% and replaces lowest test grade (but not a zero)
TOTAL	100%

Final grades will be assigned on a standard 90-80-70-60 percent scale.

Make-up Examination Policy:

Students are required to attend all examinations. Only valid, documented, excuses will be accepted for missing an examination. Without a valid excuse for missing an examination, a student will be assigned a grade of 0% for that examination. A test that was missed for a legitimate reason will be replaced with the grade on the final exam. **SEE ME WITHIN ONE WEEK OF MISSING THE TEST TO QUALIFY!**

Attendance Policies:

Students are very strongly encouraged to attend all classes. **Attendance will be taken during each laboratory period.** Students not attending class are unlikely to pass the course.

Important University Policies:

Drop policy: If you choose to drop the course, you have to do so by April 2. However, I am not expecting you to drop. I am not going to remind you. Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

Americans With Disabilities Act: The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Academic Integrity: It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. According to the UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

Student Support Services Available: The University of Texas at Arlington has established a variety of programs to help students meet the challenges of college life. Support to students includes advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, supplemental instruction, and writing assistance. For a complete list of academic support services, visit the Academic Assistance resource page of the Office of Student Success Programs, www.uta.edu/uac/studentsuccess/academic-assistance. To help students address personal, academic and career concerns, individual counseling is also available. For more information, students are encouraged to contact Counseling Services www.counseling.uta.edu at (817) 272-3671 or visit a counselor in 216 Davis Hall.

Electronic communication policy: The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

Undergraduate Teaching Assistants: There may be undergraduate teaching assistants working with the graduate instructor in the teaching of the laboratories. Students carry out this teaching under Biol. 4388 (Instructional Techniques in Biology) and have received a grade of A or B in the General Zoology Course. Please contract the Instructor as soon as possible if you are interested in being an undergraduate teaching assistant in General Zoology after completing the course.