

Name: Jon Campbell

Office Number: Life Sciences Building, Room 337

Office Telephone Number: 817-272-2406

Email Address: Campbell@uta.edu

Office Hours: 9:00–11:00 am TTh

Course Number, Section Number, and Course Title: Biol 4444, Natural History of the Vertebrates

Time and Place of Class Meetings: LS 101, 9:30–10:50 am, TTh

Description of Course Content:

Lecture will cover the systematics, life histories, morphology, ethology, and distribution of world vertebrates, with emphasis on tetrapods. The laboratory will provide the opportunity to examine and identify a taxonomically comprehensive collection of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals.

• **Lecture Topic Sequence**

History, Classification, and Evolution

History of Development of the Field

Taxonomy and Classification

Species Concepts

Systematic Theory

Vertebrate Ancestry

Lower Vertebrates

Phylum Chordata

Fishes

Amphibians

Reptiles

Higher Vertebrates

Birds

Mammals

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will learn the historical major contributors to natural history, they will understand the basic tenants of zoological nomenclature and modern systematics, and they will be able to identify representative groups and species and appreciate their morphology and life histories.

Requirements: Successful completion of a year of General Biology or equivalent. Persons with some knowledge of comparative anatomy and systematics will find this advantageous.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials: [

No text is required; extensive class notes and reading materials will be provided to you in lecture and laboratory. Use of library materials such as field guides will be helpful, and you may want to purchase your own copies. I will recommend field guides for your consideration.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates: [Insert a description of major course requirements, examinations, projects, and due dates]

Grading Policy: 1 Midterm Lecture Exams @ 100 pts; Final Exam @ 100 pts; 2 laboratory exams @ 50 pts each, for a total of 300 points. Lecture exams will contain various types of questions, including matching and short essay.

Attendance Policy: [Insert Attendance Policy, if applicable]

Drop Policy: The University drop policy will be adhered to. A grade of "W" can be assigned only up to the drop date established by the University.

Important University Policies:

Americans With Disabilities Act:

The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them 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.

"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." (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2)

Student Support Services Available

The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

Final Review Week:

A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week unless specified in the class syllabi. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. Classes are held as scheduled during this week and lectures and presentations may be given.

Drop for non-payment of tuition: Payment must be received by the term due date of January 9, 2008 or your registration will be cancelled. If your registration is cancelled for non-payment, you may reregister for classes but only if seats are available.

Bomb Threats: If anyone is tempted to call in a bomb threat, be aware that UTA will attempt to trace the phone call and prosecute all responsible parties. Every effort will be made to avoid cancellation of presentations/tests caused by bomb threats. Unannounced alternate sites will be available for these

classes. Your instructor will make you aware of alternate class sites in the event that your classroom is not available.

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email.

After Hours Safety Escort

The Sam Mav Escort service provides a service to assist students, faculty, staff and campus visitors to reach their destinations after regular business hours. The hours of service are 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Sunday through Saturday. 817-272-3381

MavMail:

All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.

Make-up Exam Policy: I encourage you to make every effort not to miss an exam. If this cannot be prevented, I will provide you with a make-up exam with discussion type questions.

Grade Grievance Policy: Refer to information in student catalogue for this information.