

WLDL 758: Animal Ecology and Conservation Biology Seminar

Fall 2019

Schedule: Wed 3-6pm in TNR 240

Course overview: This course is designed to expose you to some advanced topics in Conservation Biology through lecture, readings, and discussions while always striving to ask the question, “So what?” Conservation Biology is an eminently applied field where theory is meaningless unless it is used to help guide decision making. The course will be loosely organized around topics focusing on the conservation of species within managed habitats and ecosystems. You will be asked to present overview lectures (45 minutes) and lead guided discussions (90 minutes) of published journal articles of a particular topic. The course will give you experience reading, interpreting, and critiquing the primary literature.

Instructor:

Dr. Cady Sartini

Rm: TNR 186

Phone: x4546

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Office hours: Tue and Wed from 1-3pm

Grading: As a graduate course, I hope your motivation is not grade-related, rather the desire to learn. However, so you understand the expectations for the course, your grade will be based on the following criteria:

Topical lecture 1	15%
Topical lecture 2	25%
Guided discussion 1	15%
Guided discussion 2	25%
Participation	20%*

**In semesters with low enrollment there will be fewer in-class discussions, therefore additional assignments may be given by the instructor so that the total amount of work is appropriate for a three-credit 700-level class (e.g. required attendance at Colloquiums, additional written assignments, etc.)*

Topical lectures: Every student will be required to present two lecture/discussion sequences on a specific topic. The first will be an overview of the subject (either broad in scope or specifically focused) within the general framework of “*species conservation in managed ecosystems*” and the second will be a guided discussion through 3 more recent papers specific to the topic of your presentation. The discussion should be directed by you, with a series of questions developed ahead of time to direct it. Some topic ideas include assisted migration, landowner cooperation with conservation efforts, predator control for improving nest success, etc. Make it interesting!

Readings: There is no text in this course. Instead, we will be reading a number of current journal articles and discussing them, so you will be exposed to primary literature on a regular basis.

Tentative lecture/discussion/presentation schedule
Fall 2018

Week	Lecture topic (Tues)	Readings	Responsible individual
1	Class logistics and topic selections	As assigned	Sartini
2	Student presentation	As assigned	
3	Student presentation	As assigned	
4	Student presentation	As assigned	
5	Student presentation	As assigned	
6	Student presentation	As assigned	
7	Student presentation	As assigned	
8	Student presentation	As assigned	
9	Student presentation	As assigned	
10	Student presentation	As assigned	
11	Student presentation	As assigned	
12	Student presentation	As assigned	
13	Student presentation	As assigned	
14	Student presentation	As assigned	