

BIOLOGY OF FISHES
BISC 329

Professor: Glenn R. Parsons
 Semester: Fall 2013
 Text book: Fishes: An Introduction to Ichthyology; Moyle and Cech
 Lab books: Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico; Hoese and Moore
 Inland Fishes of Mississippi; Steve Ross (provided by me)
 Sharks, Skates and Rays of the Gulf of Mexico; Glenn Parsons

08/27/13	Introduction, History of Ichthyology	Chapt 1
08/29/13	Fish anatomy, morphology, relationships	Chapt 1 & 2
09/03/13	Locomotion, movement	Chapt 2
09/05/13	Respiration	Chapt 3
09/10/13	Respiration	Chapt 3
09/12/13	Blood and circulation	Chapt 4
09/17/13	Blood and circulation	Chapt 4
09/19/13	Buoyancy regulation	Chapt 5
09/24/13	Thermal regulation	Chapt 5
09/26/13	EXAM #1	
10/01/13	Water and salt balance	Chapt 6
10/03/13	Water and salt balance	Chapt 6
10/08/13	Feeding	Chapt 7
10/10/13	Age determination and growth	Chapt 8
10/15/13	Reproduction	Chapt 9
10/17/13	Sensory Systems	Chapt.10
10/22/13	Hagfish, lampreys	Chapt 14
10/24/13	Sharks, skates, rays, ratfish	Chapt 15
10/29/13	Ancient bony fish; Sarcopterygii	Chapt 16
10/31/13	EXAM #2	
11/05/13	Bonytongues, eels and herrings	Chapt 17
11/07/13	Minnnows, characins and catfish	Chapt 18
11/12/13	Anglerfish, cods and dragonfishes	Chapt 20
11/14/13	Mullet, silversides, flying fish, and killifish	Chapt 21
11/19/13	Squirrelfish, pipefish, and sculpins,	Chapt. 22-23
11/21/13	Squirrelfish, pipefish, and sculpins	Chapt. 22-23
11/21/13	PRESENTATIONS IN LAB	
11/25- 11/29	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
12/03/13	Perciformes	Chapt. 23-24
12/05/13	Perciformes	Chapt. 23-24
12/05/13	PRACTICAL EXAM IN LAB	

FINAL EXAM: DEC. 12th 8 AM
THE LABORATORY MEETS IN SHOEMAKER ROOM 205

GRADING

EXAM #1	20%
EXAM #2	20%
FINAL EXAM (Not comprehensive)	20%
PRACTICAL EXAM	20%
LAB REPORTS, PRESENTATION and PARTICIPATION	20%

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

90 and above...	A
80 to 89	B
70 to 79	C
60 to 69	D
59 and below	F

I do not assign + and - levels to your grades.

MY CLASSROOM IS AN ELECTRONICS FREE ZONE. NO CELL PHONES, NO LAPTOPS, NO IPADS, NO GOOGLE-GLASS, ETC. EXCEPTION- YOU MAY USE A RECORDER TO RECORD THE LECTURES.

MANY TOPICS COVERED WILL NOT BE ON THE POWER POINTS. THEREFORE YOU MUST WRITE DOWN THE MATERIAL THAT I WRITE ON THE BOARD. YOUR ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED, PARTICULARLY IN THE LAB. I WILL CHECK ROLL EACH CLASS AND YOU WILL LOSE PARTICIPATION POINTS FOR EACH DAY YOU MISS CLASS. YOU CANNOT MISS EXAMS UNLESS YOU HAVE A DOCTOR'S EXCUSE. ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN LATE WILL BE DEDUCTED A LETTER GRADE FOR EACH HOUR IT IS LATE.

Office hours: I am in the office (Room 120) or lab (Room 126) practically all day. I am available for students anytime unless it is something I simply cannot break away from. Do not hesitate to come by. However, I will set aside 8 to 10 AM on Tuesday and Thursday for student conferences.

Presentation/Research Paper: You will be assigned a topic for presentation to the class. The presentation will last about 15 minutes and will be presented using Power Point. You will likewise produce a research paper on the topic that will be due the day of the presentation (4/25).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

In this course the student will be able to recognize and identify the major fish species that occur in the inland and coastal waters of Mississippi. The student will also be provided the background and skills to apply the appropriate resources toward identifying almost any fish species found anywhere in the world. Students will come away from this course with an understanding of the methods that biologists use to collect and study fishes. Likewise, they will have an in-depth understanding of how fish are adapted to their environments, the “workings” of the fish body and the importance of fishes to human societies.

THE FIELD TRIP

We try to do a field trip to the Gulf coast during this course. However, it can be difficult to arrange because of scheduling conflicts, football games, etc. If we can arrange it the field trip will leave on Friday (typically around lunch time) to drive to the coast and we will stay in the dorms at the Gulf Coast Research Lab in Ocean Springs, MS on Friday and Saturday nights. We will go out on the research boat on Saturday morning, leave the dock at about 8AM and return to the dock at about 4 PM. We will return to Oxford on Sunday. This field trip is COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY. You are not required to go, you will not be penalized in any way if you chose not to go.

STUDENT CONTRACT

I do hereby agree to the following:

I will not miss class unless I provide a doctor's excuse.

I will come to class on time.

I will pay attention in class and will come to class prepared.

I will not talk while the professor is lecturing.

I will turn off my cell phone when in the class.

I will put away my laptop when in the class.

I will treat every student in my class with respect.

I will never ask for "extra credit" to make up for my shortcomings in the class.

I will never tell the professor "I have to make a "C" (or whatever) in this class to graduate".

I will not miss labs and will spend the entire lab period working in the lab.

I will consult with the professor well before the exams if I have problems with the course material.

I will do everything in my power to help create an environment of learning in the lab, in the classroom and on field trips.

During field trips I recognize that my actions reflect upon the University of Mississippi and therefore I agree to refrain from foul language, alcohol use, gambling, and inappropriate behavior in general.

Signed _____ Date _____