

Zoology 1450L-17756

Ichthyology Course Syllabus

FALL 2010

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Course web page: <http://www.hccfl.edu/faculty-info/ckasper.aspx> (This is my faculty website. Please check this web page for announcements/updated class schedule)

Time / Location: Monday (2:30 PM-4:10 PM, BADM 106)

Text: *The Diversity of Fishes (Helfman, Collette, Facey and Bowman)*. Handouts provided by the instructor.

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the study of ichthyology and fish biology. Topics covered relate to both marine and aquatic animals locally, regionally and globally. Students will gain an understanding of ichthyology as a whole, and develop a good working knowledge of fish biology, physiology, reproduction and nutrition.

Prerequisites/Corequisites: ZOO 1450 is a Co-requisite for this course. College reading and writing ability is expected.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course you will be able to:

- A. Identify the major families of fish.
- B. Understand the complexities of fish anatomy and physiology in the following systems: skeletal, muscle, nervous, vascular, respiratory, excretory, digestive, reproductive, communication, sensory, and endocrine.
- C. Identify the major anatomical fish structures.
- D. Classify fish.
- E. Understand the basics of fish nutritional needs
- F. Understand the aquatic environment
- G. Know the basics of fish reproduction

Exams: In-class exams will be given throughout the the semester. Exams will be given during normal class period. It is the responsibility of the student to be aware of the dates of exams. **Format:** Exam questions will be 'scantron-type questions (multiple-choice, matching, and true-false), short answer and essay questions. If you miss an exam for an *excusable* reason (illness, death in family, official travel), an oral make-up exam will be given, based on 10 essay-style questions. Missing an exam for an *inexcusable* reason (overslept, missed the bus, forgot, poor scheduling) results in a zero for that exam, with no opportunity to make up the points.

Scheduled Quizzes: Quizzes will be given each day taken from the reading material for that day. Material on quizzes may also come from supplements, so it is important to attend class.

How to do well on exams:

1. Attend lecture: approx. 80% of exam material is covered in class (the rest is from readings and assignments). Some of this material is not in the book, so the only place to learn it is from lecture or borrowed class notes.
2. Understand the material: It is difficult to respond to a question correctly unless you know the answer!

3. Use the PowerPoint handouts as a study guide. They are your study guides, as I use them to guide lectures, which represent at least 80% of test questions.
4. Ask questions during class. I do not always have review sessions; so ask if/when something is unclear.
5. Utilize my office hours.
6. Follow directions: If the question asks for an essay, respond with an essay. If it says answer with complete sentences, don't provide a list of sentence fragments.
7. Answer the question asked. Believe it or not, students often miss points for answering a question other than the one asked on the exam. They get off on a tangent, and run with it. More commonly, students miss points for not addressing every part of a multi-part question. They may nail the first 2 parts of a question perfectly, then completely ignore the final part, resulting in a score of 67% for that question.
8. Budget your time wisely. I try very hard to only ask enough questions that you will have time to answer. But, don't waste all your time trying to figure out a 5 point question, leaving you with no time to finish the final 30 point essay question.
9. Answer all questions (even if you have to guess): You get credit for all questions answered correctly, and I usually give out partial credit for questions answered partially correctly. You get zero credit for questions left blank. Therefore, it is in your best interest to at least attempt a response. Even if you're totally wrong, you get the same zero credit you would for a blank, and there may even be some humor value to the response.

General Academic Dishonesty Policy: Students must submit their own unique work on all assignments. Indications of cheating during an examination include talking with other students, using non-approved notes, shuffling through notebooks, looking at other's exam papers, etc. Cheating will result in a failing grade and notification of the academic dean for further discipline

Exam Policies: During exams, you can only use a pen, pencil, and the paper I give you to answer the questions (and your brain and body, of course). I have had issues with cheaters in the past, and because of this, the following policies were created.

1. DO NOT sit next to a person that is a study partner. Being a study partner is not an acceptable excuse for sharing similar wrong answers with the person sitting next to you.
2. Place all your books, notes, and electronic devices in your backpack and out of sight during the exam.
3. Spread out. If room allows, make sure there is at least one empty seat between you and your neighbor.
4. No not alter exams that are being returned for a re-grade.
5. Don't start the exam with a full bladder. Use the bathroom BEFORE the exam. If you must use the restroom during an exam, it will cost you 25 points.
6. Don't plagiarize.
7. Don't use cheat sheets, note cards, calculators, cell phones, or head phones during exams.
8. Ball caps and other hats are not allowed during exams.
9. Any academic misconduct will result in your semester grade being multiplied by a factor of 0 (zero). In other words, the minimum penalty is that you will fail the entire course. More severe forms of cheating and/or unethical behavior could result in more serious sanctions.

Grievance procedure: If a student has a grievance with any aspect of a course, the first step is to meet with the instructor during office hours or by appointment to discuss the problem. This discussion should not take place by e-mail. Student and instructor should both maintain a professional, respectful demeanor during this discussion, and make an honest effort to listen carefully and to understand the other's viewpoint. If the grievance cannot be resolved by an honest and sincere dialogue between student and instructor, the student may then make an appointment to discuss the problem with the department chair.

Special College days, inclement weather (hurricanes), instructor illness, exams, and coursework: If class is cancelled because the campus is closed or because the instructor is ill and there is an exam or coursework due that day, the exam or coursework will automatically be rescheduled for the next regular class meeting.

Grading: The semester exams will each count for 75% of the total grade. The final exam will count 15% of the total. Class attendance and participation will count 10%. Grades will be assigned according to the following system.

90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C; 60-69 = D; <60 = F

Regrading policy: Return work or exams for regarding within 1 week of it being returned to you. After this 1 week period, regrades will not be considered. Return the graded material plus a written explanation for why you are requesting a regrade. Short answer and essay questions must be written in ink to be considered for a regrade. In an attempt to provide as accurate a grade as possible, I reserve the right to re-grade any and all questions returned for re-grading. Therefore, regrading can result in a lower, higher, or unchanged score.

Late homework: Homework grades will be lowered 5% per calendar day it is late.

Attendance: I will take attendance each day. Class attendance and participation is part of your grade. Not all information that will appear on exams comes from the text book. Therefore, attendance is essential.

Classroom rules and general courtesies: I encourage students to discuss topics and ask questions during lectures. If this causes lectures to run over, we can simply continue where we leave off during the following class meeting. However, discussion not related to class topics (e.g., scheduling conflicts, re-grades, career counseling) should be reserved for office-hours. If you arrive late, pick up any handouts and quietly take a seat, but do not make a habit of arriving late. Synchronize watches now. If you skip or miss class, get notes from a fellow classmate. Don't complain to me when YOU miss material because YOU missed class. I will not repeat a lecture for students that miss class. There simply are not enough hours in the day. **Turn off any electronic device that might make a noise (e.g., cell phones, watch alarms, pagers). Text messaging will not be tolerated.** Don't pass notes or carry out extraneous conversations during class. I do not mind if you have food or drink (room permitting) as long as you recycle, or discard the packaging.

Instructional Methods: Overheads, PowerPoint, internet, class discussion, class activities

Request for Accommodations:

If, to participate in this course, you require an accommodation due to a physical or learning impairment, you must contact the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities. The office is located in the Student Services Building, BSSB 109. You may also reach the office by telephone at (813) 253-7914 {voice line}.

Religious Observances:

HCC will reasonably accommodate the religious observances, practices, and beliefs of students in its admissions, class attendance, and examination policies and work assignments. Students must notify instructors at least one week prior to a religious observance.

Miscellaneous: You are responsible for any announcements made, or materials circulated in your absence. You are responsible for understanding all policies, deadlines, etc... specified by the HCC Student Handbook. Arrangements can be made for students with learning disabilities only if they provide documentation from an HCC LD advisor.

Zoology 1450: Ichthyology Laboratory 2011 FALL

DATE	TOPIC	Chapter Reading
8/22	Introduction to Ichthyology Lab	
8/29	Collecting and Fisheries Techniques	10
9/5	Labor Day (no class)	
9/12	Fish Identification, Keying, and Taxonomy	7
9/19	Fish I.D.: Primitive Fish: Jawless fish, Lancets, Hagfish, (slides) Dissection: Lamprey	
9/26	EXAM 1: 100 pts	
10/3	Fish Identification: Chondrichthyes: Sharks, Skates, Rays (slides)	
10/10	Shark -"a primitive fish" Dissection: Shark	1
10/19	Fish I.D.: Bonytongues through Anglerfish (slides)	
10/24	EXAM 2: 100 pts	
10/31	Fish I.D.: Teleost: Spiny-rayed Fishes (slides)	
11/7	Yellow perch-"an advanced fish" Dissection: Yellow Perch (or other teleost fish)	3
11/14	"Advanced" bony fishes (continued)	3
11/21	Fish I.D.: Teleost: Spiny-rayed Fishes (slides)	
11/28	Fish I.D.: Ornaments (slides) (internet) Dissection: Bony Fish	
12/5	EXAM 3: 100 pts	