

DISEASE AND WILDLIFE
WIS4934/6934
Course Syllabus

Instructors:

Course coordinator: Thomas Waltzek, MS, DVM, PhD; tbwaltzek@ufl.edu

Course co-coordinator: Kuttichantran Subramaniam, MS, PhD; kuttichantran@ufl.edu

Time: 3:00 - 3.50 PM

Location: 100 McCarty C Building

Office hours: Please contact the instructors via email. Emails will be responded to within 36 hours on weekdays and within 48 hours on weekends.

Recommended Texts

Parasites and Disease of Wild Mammals in Florida, Don J. Forrester, 1992, University of Florida Press, ISBN: 9780813010724

Parasites and Diseases of Wild Birds in Florida, Donald J. Forrester, Marilyn Spalding, 2003, University Press of Florida, ISBN: 0813025605

Course Description:

This course will provide an overview of the importance of wildlife diseases in the context of disease management using an ecological framework. Diseases will be discussed for each of the major terrestrial and aquatic groups of animals. Guest lectures will be provided by experts in their fields. Upon completion of this course, the student should have an understanding of how wildlife diseases impact management decisions, and identify and describe the major infectious and non-infectious causes of disease in various wildlife species in the southeastern United States and beyond.

Topics:

Date	Topic
Friday, August 21, 2020	Registration
Monday, August 24, 2020	Introduction to the Course - Waltzek
UNIT 1	
Wednesday, August 26, 2020	Lecture 1: The Nature and Significance of Disease - Waltzek
Friday, August 28, 2020	Lecture 2: The Nature and Significance of Disease - Waltzek
Monday, August 31, 2020	Lecture 2: The Nature and Significance of Disease - Waltzek
Wednesday, September 2, 2020	Lecture 3: The Disease Process - Waltzek
Friday, September 4, 2020	Lecture 4: The Disease Process - Waltzek
Monday, September 7, 2020	Holiday

Wednesday, September 9, 2020	Lecture 4: The Disease Process - Waltzek
Friday, September 11, 2020	Lecture 5: Introduction to Non-infectious Diseases - Subramaniam
Monday, September 14, 2020	Lecture 6: Introduction to Infectious Diseases - Waltzek
Wednesday, September 16, 2020	Lecture 7: Aquazoonoses - Waltzek/ Take Home Quiz 1
UNIT 2	
Friday, September 18, 2020	Lecture 8: Diseases of Fish - Waltzek/ Take Home Quiz 1 Due
Monday, September 21, 2020	Lecture 9: Diseases of Fish - Subramaniam
Wednesday, September 23, 2020	Lecture 10: Amphibian Diseases - Ossiboff
Friday, September 25, 2020	Lecture 11: Reptile Diseases - Ossiboff
Monday, September 28, 2020	Lecture 12: Fibropapillomatosis in Sea Turtles - Brian
Wednesday, September 30, 2020	Lecture 13: Florida Freshwater Turtle Mortality Event - Waltzek
Friday, October 2, 2020	UF Homecoming Holiday
Monday, October 5, 2020	Lecture 14: Marine Mammal Diseases - OPEN (Thais)
Wednesday, October 7, 2020	Lecture 15: Marine Mammal Diseases - OPEN (Thais)
Friday, October 9, 2020	Lecture 16: Diseases of Fish - Cody
Monday, October 12, 2020	Lecture 17: Aquatic Toxicology - Martyniuk/ Take Home Quiz 2
UNIT 3	
Wednesday, October 14, 2020	Lecture 18: Diseases of Galliformes - Waltzek/ Take Home Quiz 2 Due
Friday, October 16, 2020	Lecture 19: Diseases of Raptors - Viadanna
Monday, October 19, 2020	Lecture 20: Diseases of Raptors - Viadanna
Wednesday, October 21, 2020	Lecture 21: Diseases of Columbiformes - Waltzek
Friday, October 23, 2020	Lecture 22: Diseases of Passerines - Viadanna
Monday, October 26, 2020	Lecture 23: Diseases of Passerines - Viadanna
Wednesday, October 28, 2020	Lecture 24: Waterfowl Diseases - Shender
Friday, October 30, 2020	Lecture 25: Waterfowl Diseases - Subramaniam
Monday, November 2, 2020	Lecture 26: Waterfowl Diseases - Subramaniam/ Take Home Quiz 3
UNIT 4	
Wednesday, November 4, 2020	Lecture 27: Diseases of Mustelids - Wisely/ Take Home Quiz 3 Due
Friday, November 6, 2020	Lecture 28: Diseases of Lagomorphs and Rodents - Subramaniam
Monday, November 9, 2020	Lecture 29: Diseases of Lagomorphs and Rodents - Subramaniam
Wednesday, November 11, 2020	Holiday
Friday, November 13, 2020	Lecture 30: Diseases of Ungulates - Campos
Monday, November 16, 2020	Lecture 31: Diseases of White-tailed Deer - Cunningham

Wednesday, November 18, 2020	Lecture 32: Diseases of Florida the Florida Panther - Cunningham
Friday, November 20, 2020	Lecture 33: Diseases of Black Bear - Cunningham
Monday, November 23, 2020	Lecture 34: Diseases of Marsupials, Armadillos, and Bats - Waltzek/ Take Home Quiz 4
Wednesday, November 25, 2020	Holiday
Friday, November 27, 2020	Holiday
Monday, November 30, 2020	Lecture 35: Graduate Student Presentations/ Take Home Quiz 4 Due
Wednesday, December 2, 2020	Lecture 36: Graduate Student Presentations
Friday, December 4, 2020	
Monday, December 7, 2020	
Wednesday, December 9, 2020	

Grading:

Students will be graded based on their performance on four take home quizzes, attendance and class participation, and a final presentation (graduate students only). All written quiz answers must be completed in student's own words. For take home quizzes, students are permitted to use their notes from the course, textbooks, and online resources. Copying from other sources is not acceptable and will be considered plagiarism and receive a score of 0 (zero) for that quiz.

Completed take home quizzes will be collected at the beginning of the next class. Students earn points for attending and participating in each class. Graduate students are required to complete a final presentation on a particular wildlife disease (instructor approved). Each graduate student will research and develop a 20 min PowerPoint lecture on their chosen subject, and present their topic in class on Mon, Dec 2 or Wed, Dec 4.

Points breakdown:

Quizzes (22.5 pts/quiz x 4 quizzes = **90 pts**)

Attendance and participation (0.25 pts/class x 40 classes = **10 pts**)

Graduate student final presentation = **10 pts**

Total Points (100 for undergraduate student and 110 for graduate student):

Grades will be assigned as follows:

100-93% A

92-90% A-

89-87% B+

86-83% B

82-80% B-

79-77% C+

76-73% C

72-70% C-

69-67% D+

66-63% D

62-60% D-

<60% and below = E

Makeup Policy:

Make up quizzes are not usually given but may be at the discretion of the course instructor after evaluation of the circumstances leading to the request.

Grade Changes:

Grades will be changed only when a grading error has been made. If you think an error has been made, you should email the instructor as soon as possible.

Additional information on the University of Florida Grades and Grading Policies may be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Campus Helping Resources:

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university's counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance.

- *University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575*
www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
Counseling Services
Groups and Workshops
Outreach and Consultation
Self-Help Library
Wellness Coaching
- U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/
- *Career Resource Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, www.crc.ufl.edu/*

Student Complaints:

- Residential Course: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf
- Online Course: <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

Academic Honesty: As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity." You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. case studies, presentations). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the

University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism includes any attempt to take credit for another person's work. This includes quoting directly from a book or web site, without crediting the source. Sources should always be referenced, a link to the website added, or quotation marks placed around the material.

Assignments (take home quizzes): While we understand that our students have other work and personal commitments, we expect every effort to be made to meet these deadlines. If for some reason, because of circumstances beyond your control, you are unable to meet an assignment deadline, students should e-mail the professor and explain the situation **in advance**.

Online Course Evaluation Process: Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open for students to complete during the last two or three weeks of the semester; students will be notified of the specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

Important Dates:

For important dates consult the syllabus, UF Calendar of Critical Dates and <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/>. In the event that a guest lecture needs to be rescheduled, every attempt to notify students in advance will be made, however, as working professionals in other occupations, this may not always be possible.

Services for Students with Disabilities:

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

This course will include in-person components. All face-to-face offerings will be held in instructional environments that meet physical distancing requirements recommended by UF Health. Face masks/cloth face coverings are required to be worn at all times during in-person sessions. Courses have been assigned a physical classroom with capacity to allow for physical distancing. Note that safety guidelines may change in accordance with UF and CDC guidelines.

<https://coronavirus.ufl.edu/forward-students-families/forward-students-families-academics/>