

Wildlife Ecology & Management (Biology 3446B)

Course Outline – Winter 2025

1. Course Information

Class Times & Locations

Lectures:	Section 001	Monday & Wednesday	9:30 AM – 10:30 AM
Labs:	Section 002	Wednesday	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Section 003	Thursday	8:30 AM – 11:00 AM
	Section 004	Thursday	11:00 AM– 1:30 PM
	Section 005	Thursday	2:30 PM – 5:00 PM
	Section 006	Friday	9:00 AM – 11:30 AM

List of Prerequisites

Biology 2483A/B.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean's Designate (Department/Program Counsellors and Science Academic Advisors) to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2. Instructor Information

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Beauchamp

Email: abeauch7@uwo.ca

Office: BGS 2030

Office hours: Mondays 10:30 AM to 11:00 AM, and Wednesdays 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Teaching Assistant Information

TAs	Email	Lab Section
Eva Visscher	evissche@uwo.ca	002, 004
Ingrid Tello Lopez	itello@uwo.ca	003, 006
Evan Bennet	ebenne29@uwo.ca	005

For email correspondence, you must use your Western (@uwo.ca) email address and include "Biology 3446B" in the subject line. Office hours with teaching assistants are by appointment only, at their discretion, and can be requested by contacting them via email.

3. Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Description

This course teaches the application of ecological principles to the management of wildlife species. Topics include: techniques, harvest, predation, habitat loss and management, stocking and reintroductions, and economics of wildlife. Identification and biology of wildlife, including migratory birds, game, pest, and furbearing species in laboratories.

Learning objectives

Further to the goals of the course listed below, outcomes for each lecture will be released with the lecture. By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe common ideas and challenges to the management and conservation of wildlife populations and offer solutions to those challenges.
2. Explain the methods used to study wildlife.
3. From the labs, be able to identify bird, mammal, amphibian, and reptile species that are native to Canada.

Mode of delivery

Lectures will take place in-person during the scheduled class periods. Labs will also take place in-person during the assigned lab periods. You must attend your assigned lab section as you are not allowed to attend other lab sections without written approval from the course instructor. The material covered in lectures and labs are outlined in the following Tentative Schedule.

Contingency Plan

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in person, should any university-declared emergency require some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously or asynchronously, the course will adapt accordingly. The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor. More information is available in Section 8 of this syllabus.

Tentative Schedule

The lecture topics presented below are tentative and may change as the semester develops. I have invited guest speakers who may have to reschedule their talks. There will be periodic assigned readings in support of the lecture material posted periodically throughout the term. For those papers, you should make note of the purpose of the study and the major findings.

Week	Date	Lecture Topics	Laboratory Topics & Quizzes
1	Jan 6 – 10	Introduction to Course Why Do We Manage Wildlife?	<i>No Lab</i>
2	Jan 13 – 17	Field Methods I Field Methods II	Lab 1: Small mammals
3	Jan 20 – 24	Field Methods III Citizen Science	Lab 2: Large mammals Quiz 1 (testing Lab 1 ID)
4	Jan 27 – 31	Population Dynamics I Population Dynamics II	Lab 3: Amphibians & reptiles Quiz 2 (testing Lab 2 ID)
5	Feb 3 – 7	Predation & Predator Management I Predation & Predator Management II	Lab 4: Hawks, owls, & gamebirds Quiz 3 (testing Lab 3 ID)
6	Feb 10 – 14	Role of Hunting in Wildlife Conservation Guest lecture TBA	Review for Lab Midterm
	Feb 13	Lab Midterm (25%)	7 PM – 9 PM
7	Feb 17 – 21	<i>Reading Week</i>	<i>No Labs or Lectures</i>
8	Feb 24 – 28	Threats to Wildlife I Threats to Wildlife II	Lab 5: Waterfowl
	Mar 1	Midterm (25%)	2 PM – 4 PM
9	Mar 3 – 7	Habitat Management I Habitat Management II	Lab 6: Shorebirds & near Passerines Quiz 4 (testing Lab 5 ID)
10	Mar 10 – 14	Invasive Species Management Wild Boar Management	Lab 7: Passerines part 1 Quiz 5 (testing Lab 6 ID)
11	Mar 17 – 21	Species at Risk Exotics, Introductions, & Reintroductions	Lab 8: Passerines part 2 Quiz 6 (testing Lab 7 ID)
12	Mar 24 – 28	Cormorant Reintroduction & Management Megafauna ‘Rewilding’ in Europe	Lab 9: Wildlife capture and tracking methods
13	Mar 31 – Apr 4	The Wildlife Trade Wildlife Ecotourism in Africa	Review for Lab Final Exam
	Apr 4	Lab Final Exam (25%)	7 PM – 9 PM

4. Course Materials

No textbook for the course is required, but field guides are recommended to help learn the species identification in the labs. Physical copies of field guides are helpful; a well-organized field guide will put similar species close together, making it easier to perform an identification. The website allaboutbirds.org is an excellent resource for birds, available for free. iNaturalist.org is another good resource, and it covers a wide variety of species.

All course material (including required readings) will be posted to OWL (<https://westernu.brightspace.com/>) and you should check OWL on a regular basis for news and updates. This is the primary method by which information will be disseminated to all students in the class. You are responsible for checking OWL on a regular basis. If you need assistance with the course OWL site, seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#) page. Alternatively, you can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Methods of Evaluation

Grading Scheme and Assessment Dates

The overall course grade will be calculated as listed below:

Assessments	Additional information	Weight
Lab Midterm	Covering labs 1 – 4 Thursday, February 13 th , 7 PM to 9 PM	25%
Lab Final Exam	Covering labs 5 – 9 Friday, April 4 th , 7 PM to 9 PM	25%
Midterm	Covering content prior to reading week Saturday March 1 st , 2 PM to 4 PM	25%
Final Exam	Covering content after reading week Time, date, and location are scheduled by the Registrar's Office.	25%
Lab Quizzes (6)	Brief quizzes on identifying animals presented in labs will take place during scheduled lab times (refer to the Tentative Schedule). The quizzes will be conducted at the beginning of your scheduled lab period. There are 6 quizzes in total. Your quiz grades will not be used in the calculation of your overall course grade; the quizzes serve as opportunities to practice your species ID skills in preparation for the lab midterm and final exam.	0%

Evaluation Content & Expectations

Lecture and laboratory exams are not cumulative. Midterms will evaluate you on the content covered prior to the midterm, and finals will evaluate you on the content covered after the midterm. Lab evaluations may include bonus questions. The content of the bonus questions is meant to be a surprise, so there will not be any bonus questions on makeup tests. Unless a question on the midterm or final exam specifically says to include additional sources, answers will be marked based on information presented by the course instructor (A. Beauchamp), guest lectures, any videos presented in class, and from assigned readings. Answers to all questions must be in your own words. That is, you may not copy and paste a lecture transcript and expect to receive full marks for a question.

General information about missed coursework

Students must familiarize themselves with the *University Policy on Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs* posted on the Academic Calendar:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/academic_consideration_Sep24.pdf,

This policy does not apply to requests for Academic Consideration submitted for **attempted or completed work**, whether online or in person.

The policy also does not apply to students experiencing longer-term impacts on their academic responsibilities. These students should consult [Accessible Education](#).

For procedures on how to submit Academic Consideration requests, please see the information posted on the Office of the Registrar's webpage: https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/

All requests for Academic Consideration must be made within 48 hours after the assessment date or submission deadline.

All Academic Consideration requests must normally include supporting documentation; however, recognizing that formal documentation may not be available in some extenuating circumstances, the policy allows students to make one Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** in this course. However, the following assessments are excluded from this, and therefore always require formal supporting documentation:

- Examinations scheduled during official examination periods.
- Practical laboratory and performance tests (including the lab midterm exam and lab final exam).

When a student *mistakenly* submits their one allowed Academic Consideration request **without supporting documentation** for the assessments listed above or those in the **Coursework with Assessment Flexibility** section below, the request cannot be recalled and reapplied. This privilege is forfeited.

Evaluation Scheme for Missed Assessments

If you experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render you unable to write the lecture midterm exam, the lab midterm exam, and/or the lab final exam, you may submit a request for academic consideration through the Student Absence Portal as soon as possible. If academic consideration is granted by your dean's office, a make-up examination will be scheduled – reweighting of lab and lecture exams is not possible as this would prevent the fair assessment of whether essential learning objectives have been met.

When a student misses the Final Exam and their Academic Consideration has been granted, they will be allowed to write the Special Examination (the name given by the University to a makeup Final Exam). See the Academic Calendar for details (under [Special Examinations](#)), especially for those who miss multiple final exams within one examination period.

Essential Learning Requirements

Even when Academic Considerations are granted for missed coursework, completion of the lab midterm, lecture midterm, lab final, and lecture final are essential to earn a passing grade. Makeup and special examinations will be offered as outlined above. For logistical reasons, academic considerations beyond the offered makeup/special examinations may require writing any missed examinations during the next offering of the course, in which case a grade of Incomplete (INC) may be assigned by the academic advisors in your faculty until course requirements are completed.

6. Additional Statements

Religious Accommodation

When conflicts with a religious holiday that requires an absence from the University or prohibits certain activities, students should request an accommodation for their absence in writing to the course instructor and/or the Academic Advising office of their Faculty of Registration. This notice should be made as early as possible but not later than two weeks prior to the writing or the examination (or one week prior to the writing of the test).

Please visit the Diversity Calendars posted on our university's EDID website for the recognized religious holidays: <https://www.edi.uwo.ca>.

Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Accessible Education, which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The policy on Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities can be found at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Accommodation_disabilities.pdf.

Academic Policies

The website for Registrar Services is <https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>.

In accordance with policy,

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/policies_procedures/section1/mapp113.pdf,

the centrally administered e-mail account provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at their official university address is attended to in a timely manner.

Electronic devices are not permitted during quizzes and exams, with the exception of non-programmable, non-graphing calculators.

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

In the event of a health-related lock down or other circumstances where in-person examinations are not possible, tests and examinations in this course may be conducted using a remote proctoring service. By taking this course, you are consenting to the use of this software and acknowledge that you will be required to provide **personal information** (including some biometric data) and the session will be **recorded**. Completion of this course will require you to have a reliable internet connection and a device that meets the technical requirements for this service. More information about this remote proctoring service, including technical requirements, is available on Western's Remote Proctoring website at: <https://remoteproctoring.uwo.ca>.

Support Services

Please visit the Science & Basic Medical Sciences Academic Advising webpage for information on adding/dropping courses, academic considerations for absences, appeals, exam conflicts, and many other academic-related matters: <https://www.uwo.ca/sci/counselling/>.

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western (<https://uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.

To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.

Please contact the course instructor if you require lecture or printed material in an alternate format or if any other arrangements can make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education at

http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html

if you have any questions regarding accommodations.

Learning-skills counsellors at Learning Development and Success (<https://learning.uwo.ca>) are ready to help you improve your learning skills. They offer presentations on strategies for improving time management, multiple-choice exam preparation/writing, textbook reading, and more. Individual support is offered throughout the Fall/Winter terms in the drop-in Learning Help Centre, and year-round through individual counselling.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Decolonization (EDID)

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (e. g. First Nations, Métis, and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society. Throughout Canada, North America, and the world, Indigenous Peoples are vital contributors to their communities, and we greatly value their presence, knowledge, and wisdom.

The pronouns used by Instructor and TAs:

Andrew Beauchamp (he/him)

Eva Visscher

Ingrid Tello Lopez (she/her)

Evan Bennet (he/him)