General Zoology (Bio115-1).

An introduction to the diversity, comparative anatomy, physiology, and ecology of animals. Emphasis is placed on taxonomy, adaptations to the environment, and the evolutionary relationships between animal phyla. *Note: This class is designed for science majors.*

There are 3 Sections of Bio 115 this semester – please be sure you are in the correct one. Although each class will be covering the same basic material, each may highlight different subjects. Your professor for class must be the same as in lab.


**Instructor info – Dr. Shana Goffredi**
Office hours – BioSci107; M 10:30-12:00, R 12:00-1:30 (or by appt)
Office phone – 323-259-1470 Email – sgoffredi@oxy.edu

**Course Overview**
Students will develop an appreciation for the vast diversity of animal life on the planet, as well as their evolutionary connectivity and important, and often fascinating, roles within Earth’s ecosystems.

**Student Learning Goals**
Together we will build your understanding of animal life on this planet. You will learn to appreciate specific features in animal architecture, trends in the evolution of body design that are shared among animal groups, and the general making of animal diversity. You will gain the knowledge and curiosity to recognize that different animals are adapted to different circumstances with unique capabilities. You will deepen your understanding of all animal forms, including ourselves, and at the end of this class, no longer hold humans above the rest of the animal world, but as part of it.

**Important Dates (Possible Points and Grading)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam/Practical</th>
<th>Total points</th>
<th>Date (in order)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam #1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>October 7(^{th})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practice Practical</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>October 12(^{th})/13(^{th})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical #1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>October 26(^{th})/27(^{th})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>November 2(^{nd})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (online)</td>
<td>70 (10 pts ea)</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Weekly’ Reading / Writing Assignments</td>
<td>110 (10 pts ea)</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Class / Lab</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HW Assignments (individual and groups)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>throughout semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoology in the News</td>
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<td>throughout semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab assignments (arthropods / classification)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Oct 19(^{th}) &amp; Nov 30(^{th})</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creature Feature – rough draft</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 1(^{st}) – Nov 25(^{th})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creature Feature – final draft</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>December 2(^{nd})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical #2</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Week of Dec 9(^{th}) (TBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam #3</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Week of Dec 9(^{th}) (TBD)</td>
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**Total Possible** 900 points. Final grades are firm (A = >95%; A- =90-95%, etc).

Scores on all assignments will always be given to you as soon as possible.
Student Responsibilities
Regular class attendance is expected of all students. Try not to be late.
Laptops and iPads are only allowed at the discretion of the instructor (please inquire).
Absolutely no cell phones are allowed – please turn them off before class.
Always come to class prepared to contribute.

Discussions / Participation
Class participation will be an important component of your learning experience in this course.
Guidelines for discussions and in-class participation include the following: Everyone should try to participate actively. A discussion is not just one person talking - it involves the voices of two or more people. Always come to class prepared to contribute. Listen and be open-minded - different and conflicting opinions are an opportunity for you to learn. Always show respect towards your peers.
Class participation includes contributions to discussions, group work, mini assignments and in-class learning exercises. Because the purpose of these activities is to help foster your understanding of the material, your class participation will not be graded for correctness (unless specifically stated), but will be tallied as part of a component of your final grade for the class.

Moodle Website
Course info, readings, announcements, quizzes and many other things related to the course will be available on Moodle (https://moodle.oxy.edu/). You will be automatically enrolled in the Moodle site when you are enrolled in the class. If you need help, log in using your Oxy log in name and password, and look under Resources, or access via my.oxy.edu). Check often for changes/additions.
Class handouts are posted 24 hours in advance.

Weekly Reading / Writing Assignment – You must carefully read all papers assigned. Readings are listed on the syllabus and posted on Moodle. Each (n = 12, you can skip 1) is accompanied by a written assignment / reflection (to be completed online before 9:30 a.m. the day it is listed) and will also involve a discussion (in class that same day), for which all students are expected to prepare to participate. I would encourage you to read the articles in depth and write down questions and interesting points ahead of time so that you can get the conversation going in class.

Exam Policy
The goal is to treat all students fairly. Therefore it is my general policy not to give make-up exams except in extreme situations. If you have some activity that prevents you from being on campus for an exam date, you should discuss this with me well in advance of the exam. You will only be allowed to take the exam before the scheduled, and posted, date (never after the date). The final exam is comprehensive (i.e. material covered early helps with understanding subsequent material). You will be expected to synthesize the essential concepts and content of the entire semester.

Academic Accommodations
Any person with a disability and requiring accommodations to complete course requirements, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss your learning needs. All discussions will remain confidential. For information on documentation requirements, contact the CAE (x2545).
Quizzes
A total of 7 online quizzes will be given (look for specifics on the syllabus). They are posted at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, and are due by noon on the following Saturday. Each is worth 10 points. Based on past experience, these will help you prepare for the actual exams. Take them seriously.

Assignments / Homework
Class activities, worksheets, quizzes and homework will be assigned periodically. These are listed on your syllabus, and will be posted on Moodle.

Lab manual
Attendance at all laboratories is mandatory. The lab manual is available for purchase in BS 100 (~ $15 cash). You must pick this up before Monday of the 1st week of labs.

Textbook
There is no required text for the class. However, the recommended textbook for this class is Animal Diversity by Hickman et al (McGraw-Hill). I highly recommend that you read the text ahead of time, think about the topic, and jot down questions. You will find the page #’s for the chapters that correspond to class material listed each day on the syllabus. This book is a very a helpful resource and numerous visual aids used in class are taken from it. Coming to class prepared will greatly help with both your ability to participate during class and your ability to perform well on exams. Any edition is sufficient. Copies are available in the Academic Commons, as well as from Prof Goffredi.

Office Hours
Please come see me for any issues, clarification on lecture or lab topics, or general discussions of the material. Access to professors is one of the big advantages of Oxy!

Academic Ethics
This course will include writing, presenting, and reviewing published papers. Students are responsible for meeting a high ethical standard in their academic work. You will be very tempted to copy and paste from the weekly articles into your written evaluations. Do not do this! Academic misconduct occurs when a student misrepresents others’ work as her/his own (i.e. without proper credit of the original source with a citation or other note). If you are suspected of academic misconduct you will be called before the Judicial Examiner. The consequences for academic dishonesty are serious, so please use good judgment. More info is in your student handbook.

Learning and Study Resources
There are several different options for additional help with learning the course material or studying for exams. These options are:
Scientific Scholars Achievement Program (SSAP)
Peer mentors - Center for Academic Excellence (CAE)