



## Course Syllabus – WILD 170-01



### COURSE AND INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:

WILD 170-01: Fish and Wildlife Interest Group  
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Dr. Victoria Dreitz: [victoria.dreitz@umontana.edu](mailto:victoria.dreitz@umontana.edu)

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 9:00am-11:00am and by appointment  
**Office Location:** Forestry Building, FOR 303

Welcome to the Fish and Wildlife Interest Group! This is a one-credit course that will introduce you to the University of Montana, the Wildlife Biology Program, and where we'll explore some current issues in wildlife biology and have some fun. Just like any other course, attendance and assignment completion are required. Grading is pass/fail.

### COURSE SCHEDULE:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	8-29	<u>Introductions and Course Outline</u> -Introduction to the WIG and Missoula Area -Student introductions -Syllabus review <b>Assignment 1: 4-year Course Planner</b>
2	9-05	<u>Labor day week - no class</u>
3	9-12	<u>In-class Activity</u> - Radio telemetry and its application
4	9-19	<u>Guest Speaker: Cheryl Minnick</u> - Academic Enrichment Opportunities: internships, volunteering, study abroad) <b>Assignment 1 Due: 4-year Course Planner</b>
5	9-26	<u>Animal Trapping Techniques</u> -Sign-up for Electrofishing with Dr. Lisa Eby
6	10-3	<u>Wildlife Biology Academic Advising</u> -Jeanne Franz, guest speaker
7	10-10	<u>Wildlife Observation and Note Taking</u> <b>Assignment 2: Journal Exercise</b>
8	10-17	<u>Resume and Cover Letter Presentation</u> <b>Assignment 3: Building a Resume</b>

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
9	10-24	<u>Introduction to Ecology</u> -Owl Habitat Associations & Diet Assessment <b>-Class meets in basement of Interdisciplinary Science Building, ISB 008 (not in class)</b>
10	10-31	<u>Exotic Animal Trade</u> -When is wildlife no longer wild? <b>Assignment 3 Due: Resume</b>
11	11-07	<u>Guest Speaker: Libby Beckman</u> -Philip L. Wright Zoological Museum -Mammal Skull Lab <b>-Class meets in basement of Interdisciplinary Science Building, ISB 008 (not in class)</b>
12	11-14	<u>Research Using Electronic Resources</u> -Led by Barry Brown, Science Librarian at M.&M. Mansfield Library -How to use library electronic resources (books, scientific journals, etc.) -Meets in Student Learning Center, ML283 (not in class) <b>Assignment 4: Library assignment</b>
13	11-24	<u>Thanksgiving – no class</u>
14	11-28	<u>Communicating Science &amp; Encouraging Participation</u> -Good and bad examples of science communication. -What is <i>Citizen Science</i> and how to get involved. -Applications of technology in wildlife biology (Ex: Ebird).
15	12-5	<u>Wrap-up Discussion</u> <b>Assignment 4: Library assignment due</b>

### STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

1. This is a *seminar*; therefore, discussion and class participation will be a large component of the class.
2. Be prepared for class. Use this syllabus as a reference to know what to be prepared for on the proper date.
3. If you are going to be absent, please contact me BEFORE you miss class. I realize that school is not the only aspect of life and that events do come up which require you to miss class. However, if you do not notify me **ahead** of time, then you will lose points.

### GRADING POLICY:

5 points <b>each</b> day for attendance	= 65 points
30 points for participation	= 30 points
35 points for each assignment	= 140 points
TOTAL	= 235 points

**How you earn points:**

- **Attendance/Participation:** each day you attend class, you get five points. Participating in every class is required for full participation credit. Obviously, if you're not in class, you can't participate.
- **Assignments:** successful completion of the 4 assignments will earn you full assignment credit.