

Syllabus for Avian Biology (ZOO4472)

Lectures: Tu (12:50-2:45) Th (12:50-1:40) MAT 116; Labs TuTh (8:30-12:35)

Instructor: Scott Robinson (srobinson@flmnh.ufl.edu) 273-1965, 307 Dickinson Hall

TAs: Ian Ausprey and Mitch Walters, 305 Dickinson

Office Hours: TBD or by appointment

Date Lecture topic (Chapter in Text)

Module One: Evolutionary history, anatomy, development, and physiology

Jan. 9 Introduction and Evolutionary Diversity (Chapter 1)

11 Evolutionary history (Chapters 2-3)

16 Evolution of flight

18 Anatomy and physiology (4, 6)

23 Senses (7)

25 Nests and eggs (15)

30 Incubation and development (16)

Feb. 1 Physics of flight (5)

6 Physics of flight; catch up

8 Optional review during class period; **EXAM I IN EVENING, 7-10PM**

Module Two: Behavior

13 Cognition

15 Migration (10)

20 Orientation (10)

22 Vocal communication (13)

27 Visual communication

March 1 Sociality (11)

13 Mating systems and sexual selection (12, 13)

15 Optional review during regular class period; **EXAM II IN EVENING, 7-10 PM**

Module Three: Ecology and conservation

20 Cooperative breeding (13)

22 Brood parasitism (13)

27 Brood parasitism; populations (18)

29 Speciation (19)

Apr. 3 Foraging and communities (20)

10 Community Ecology (20)

12 Community ecology (20)

17 Conservation (21)

19 Conservation (21)

24 Optional review during regular class period; **EXAM III IN EVENING, 7-10PM**

Grading

Exam 1: 100 pts

Exam 2: 100pts

Exam 3: 100pts (**No cumulative final**)

Lab: 160 pts

Total grade: 460 pts