

Ornithology Specimen Preparation

ZOO4926 (27025-section 6291) -> undergrad

ZOO6927 (28610-section 6292) -> grad

When and Where:

Tuesdays: 9:35-1:40 PM, 120 Carr Hall

Description and Goals:

This one-credit class teaches students to prepare and preserve bird specimens for research and education. It's a hands-on course where students will learn techniques such as **skinning, collecting dissection data, stuffing, and preparing skeletons and fluid-preserved specimens**. The course also addresses the important ethical and legal considerations involved in handling bird specimens to ensure responsible practices. Additionally, students will develop skills relevant to the curation of Ornithological collections.

Instructors:

Dr. Andrew Kratter, 350 Dickinson Hall – kratter@flmnh.ufl.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays 3-5 PM, or by appointment

Dr. Glaucia Del-Rio, 320 Dickinson Hall – g.delrio@ufl.edu

Office hours: Mondays 3-5PM, or by appointment

Schedule:

Aug 26: Course introduction, collecting techniques, bird specimen demonstration

Sept 2: data collection and skinning techniques (medium birds)

Sept 9: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small birds)

Sept 16: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small birds)

Sept 23: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small birds)

Sept 30: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small birds)

Oct 7: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small bird and spread wing)

Oct 14: data collection and skeleton prep techniques

Oct 21: data collection and partial skeleton preparation

Oct 28: data collection and skinning techniques (large birds)

Nov 4: data collection and skinning techniques (large birds)

Nov 11: (Holiday – NO CLASS)

Nov 18: data collection and skinning techniques (medium-small bird and spread wing)

Nov 25: (Holiday – NO CLASS)

Dec 2: fluid specimen preparations and tour of special collections building

Dec 9: wrap-up activity!

Evaluation:

Grades will be based on engagement in activities, data collection and specimen quality.

Arriving more than 15 minutes late will negatively affect your grade.

Final exam:

This course does not include a final exam.

Policies:

<https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

No textbook, and no tool kit needed. No food or beverages are allowed in the lab during specimen preparation. If you have any questions, concerns, or if you need accommodations, please contact Glaucia Del-Rio at g.delrio@ufl.edu

Accessibility:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) and provide appropriate documentation.