

## **Syllabus for Avian Biology (ZOO4472)**

Lectures: Tu (periods 6,7) Th (Period 6) BAR 211 ; Labs TuTh

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

TAs: Harrison Jones and Mitch Walters, 305 Dickinson

Office Hours: By appointment

Date Lecture topic (Chapter in Text)

### *Section 1: Evolution, anatomy, and physiology*

- Jan. 8 Introduction (1), Evolutionary history (2)
- 10 Evolutionary history (2)
- 15 Systematics and taxonomy (3,19) (Andy Kratter, guest lecture)
- 17 Anatomy (5, 6)
- 22 Physiology (7, 14)
- 24 Physiology
- 29 Senses (7) and Feathers (4)
- 31 Flight Physics (5)
- Feb. 5 Flight; Foraging and Digestion (6)
- 7 **Review for Exam 1 (Exam in evening at 6:00PM)**

### *Section 2: Life history and behavior*

- 12 Avian life histories: Nests and eggs (15), timing (9)
- 14 Incubation and development (16)
- 19 Behavior: Cognition (7)
- 21 Migration patterns (10)
- 26 Migration mechanisms; orientation (10)
- 28 Visual communication (4, 12)
- March 12 Vocal communication (8)
- 14 Sociality (11)
- 19 Mating systems and sexual selection (12, 13)
- 21 **Review for Exam 2 (Exam in the evening at 6:00PM)**

### *Section 3: Ecology and conservation*

- 26 Cooperative breeding and Brood parasitism (13)
- 28 Brood parasitism
- April 2 Community ecology (20)
- 4 Community ecology
- 9 Community ecology
- 11 Conservation (21)
- 16 Conservation
- 18 Conservation
- 23 **Review for Exam 3 (Exam in evening at 6:00 PM)**

**Exams 1, 2, and 3: 100 pts each=300 pts total; NO FINAL; Lab: 160 points= 460 points total**