

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Zoology or Animal Biology is a discipline of biology dealing with animals (humans included). The animals are classified in about 35 phyla, which we would try to cover briefly.

CREDIT HOURS: 4

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Introduction to the concept of evolution, and tree thinking

Recognize animal diversity and phylogenetic history by means of acquired and shared traits.

Basic understanding of history of animals on earth, including some critical fossil groups.

PROFESSOR:

Juan Diego Daza Ph. D.

Lee Drain Building 214

Phone: 936-294-4250

Email: daza@shsu.edu

Office Hours: Wednesdays 11:00 AM—2:30 PM or by appointment

ROOM & TIME: Lecture: TW 12:30 AM—1:50 PM, LDB 214

TEXTBOOK:

Hickman Jr. CP, Roberts LS, Keen SL, Eisenhour DJ, Larson A, l'Anson H. 2014. Integrated principles of zoology. McGraw Hill, New York. 823 pp. (Recommended not mandatory).

ONLINE RESOURCES:

We will be using Tophat (<https://tophat.com>). You should have received an invitation on your University email. Also we will be using dropbox to exchange files, also you should receive an invitation on your mailbox.

GRADE:

1) Lecture Exams (400 points): There will be four regular exams during the semester. Each exam is worth 100 points. All regular exams will consist of multiple choice, true false, and matching questions and will be given during the designated lecture time-slot (see accompanying schedule).

2) Lab Grade (300 points). This part of the course is based on onbervation of preserved animals. There is a separated syllabus for the lab.

Total 100%

POINTS REQUIRED:

Grade

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| A | 90%-100% |
| B | 80%-89.9% |
| C | 70%-79.9% |
| D | 60%-69.9% |
| F | 59.9% and below |

Remarks: There will be no extra credit, no review sessions, no review sheets. I will, however, post outlines/lectures of the material presented on blackboard. I strongly encourage you to exchange notes with classmates, study together, and form study groups, etc.

If necessary, use a tutor. TriBeta Biological Honors Society offers free tutoring; times to be announced.

USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

I welcome the use of personal computers for class purposes (i.e. note taking, online academic resources, tophat); however we expect that students who bring electronic devices to class will use them for academic purposes only. The use of electronic devices for non-academic activities during classroom activities, such as surfing the Internet, updating social networking pages, or engaging in any other extracurricular activities, is disruptive to fellow students and disrespectful to faculty, and therefore constitute unprofessional behavior. The use of mobile phones is not allowed and they have to be in silent mode prior to the beginning of the class. If someone receives a call during a lecture, I might be willing to leave.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabricating information or citations, facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. Students who are found to be dishonest will receive academic sanctions, such as an "F" grade on the exam. They will also be reported to the Head of the Department of Biological Sciences for possible further disciplinary action.

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM:

Unannounced visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. If the visitor is not a registered student, it is my discretion whether or not the visitor will be allowed in the classroom.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that no otherwise qualified disabled individual shall, solely by reason of his/her handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any academic or Student Life program of activity. Students with disabilities may request assistance with academically related problems stemming from individual disabilities by contacting the Director of Counseling Center in the Lee Drain Annex or by calling (936) 264-1720. Students who have disabilities that may prevent them from fully demonstrating their abilities should contact the instructor as soon as possible to discuss accommodations necessary to ensure the students educational opportunity. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: no accommodation can be made until you register with the Counseling Center.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence. University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). This request must be made in the first fifteen days of the semester or the first seven days of a summer session in which the absence(s) will occur. The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

1. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student at Sam Houston State University.
2. Each faculty member will keep a record of student attendance.
3. Each faculty member will announce the policies for accepting late work or providing makeup examinations. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations.
4. A student shall not be penalized for three or fewer hours of absences when examinations or other assigned class work has not been missed; however, at the discretion of the instructor, a student may be penalized for more than three hours of absences.

5. Each instructor is obligated to clarify in writing to each student enrolled in class at the beginning of the semester or summer session the instructor's classroom policy regarding absences.
6. Class absences will be recorded and counted only from the actual day of enrollment for the individual student in that specific class.

See more information on:

<http://www.shsu.edu/catalog/scholasticrequirements.html>

