

# The University of Findlay

Fall 2022

**The mission of The University of Findlay is to equip our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.**

**Course Number:** ANSC445: Wildlife Conservation and Care

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Class Time/Place:** Loop Abroad Thailand; October 31-November 11, 2022

## **Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description:**

This course takes place in Thailand at one of Loop Abroad's partner wildlife and/or zoological organizations. It is part of Loop Abroad's Thailand Veterinary Semester Abroad program. Students will learn and exchange knowledge with veterinarians and caretakers to learn about the specific issues facing captive and wild populations of animals as well as the challenges of managing them in a captive environment. Students will gain an impressive amount of knowledge in comparative anatomy, physiology, and species-specific care on a variety of species. Students will also gain an understanding of the relationships between government, tourism, and wildlife conservation and care in Thailand.

**Instructor:** Peter DiGeronimo, VMD, MSc, DACZM; Kristina Perez, DVM

**Instructor Contact Information:** [pmdigeronimo@gmail.com](mailto:pmdigeronimo@gmail.com); [kristina@loopabroad.com](mailto:kristina@loopabroad.com)

**Office Hours:** upon request

## **Course Objectives:**

The following Learning Objectives will be addressed or assessed as part of the course:

- **Understand** the history and contemporary perspectives on zoos, shelters, and ecotourism and their development and animal welfare impacts
- **Understand** major conservation strategies, such as using 'charismatic megafauna' to promote the conservation of whole ecosystems
- **Understand** the everyday and veterinary management of various wildlife species in captive environments
- **Understand** major infectious diseases of captive animals and Thai wildlife and zoonoses
- **Apply** comparative anatomy and biology of a variety of species while performing physical exams
- **Apply** restraint and handling techniques on a variety of species

- **Analyze** the relationships between the many stakeholders in wildlife and natural resources and the political complexities of conservation policy and conservation areas both in Thailand and in the United States
- **Evaluate** the welfare for an assigned animal or group of animals in a zoological setting
- **Create** an enrichment scheme for an assigned animal or group of animals in a zoological setting

**Required Textbooks and Other Materials:**

- Optional: Fowler’s Zoo and Wild Animal Medicine, 8th ed. Miller, Fowler, 2014.
- Each day, please plan to bring the following materials with you in a day pack, backpack, or tote bag: class session materials (textbook(s) if required, notes, notebook and/or laptop, writing utensils, etc.), scrubs, rubber boots or sneakers that can get wet, insect repellent, sunscreen, snacks, refillable water bottle, rain jacket. Your clothes may get dirty or ripped.

**Instructional Strategies:**

Case Analysis	x	Library and Internet Research	x
Debate	x	Practice/drill	x
Discovery/Independent Research	x	Problem-solving	x
Discussion/Questioning/Interviewing	x	Reading assignments	
Experiential Learning	x	Role-playing/simulation games	x
Field Experience	x	Service Learning	x
Group Presentation	x	Video/Audio Review and Critique	
Laboratory Experiences	x	Other	
Lecture	x		

**Methods of Assessment:** Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Abstracts		Participation	x
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Attendance	x	Peer Evaluation	
Capstone Project		Portfolio	
Case Study		Portfolio Lab Performance	
Exams	x	Presentations	x
Group Projects		Professional Evaluation	x
Homework Assignments	x	Quizzes	
Internet Research		Research project	x
Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance	x		
Oral/written review of literature			

**Grading:** Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Assignments: 35%

Exam 1: 25%

Exam 2: 25%

Class Participation and Performance: 15%

Throughout this course, instructors will assess students on their participation in labs and activities both in and out of the classroom. To do well on this assessment:

- Be sure to do your best in all labs and activities and complete corresponding handouts and pages in workbook
- Be an active and engaged participant (pay attention during class, volunteer answers, ask questions, etc)
- Be a team player and be helpful to your peers and instructors both in and outside the classroom
- Be prepared and on time for all activities

Please note: this is not an exclusive list. A student's behavior, attitude, and actions throughout their Loop Abroad program may have an impact on their Participation and Performance Score

**Grading Scale/Distribution:**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
A	4.00	93-100

A-	3.67	90-92
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3.00	83-86
B-	2.67	80-82
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2.00	73-76
C-	1.67	70-72
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1.00	63-66
D-	0.67	62-60
F	0.00	below 60
U	0.00	

**University Honor Code:**

Each and every student of the University will adhere to the following Honor Code:

“I will not knowingly engage in any dishonorable behavior, cheat, steal, lie, or commit any act of plagiarism during any academic work, course, or endeavor. If I observe an act which I believe violates the University’s Honor Code, I may, at my discretion, report it to the appropriate personnel.”

**Student Acknowledgement of University Honor Code:**

“I acknowledge that I have fully complied or will comply with all aspects of the University’s Honor Code in submitting this work.”

**Student Rights and Responsibilities Statement, Article VIII-Academic Integrity:**

<http://catalog.findlay.edu/en/current/Undergraduate-Catalog/Student-Rights-and-Responsibilities-Statement/VIII-Academic-Integrity>

**University Diversity Statement:**

As part of our commitment to achieve excellence, the University of Findlay values and actively promotes a welcoming and supportive environment that honors the many aspects of diversity. We aspire to foster acceptance of, respect for, and appreciation of all persons in our campus community. We celebrate our commonalities and unique differences, and we acknowledge that diversity broadens learning, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and prepares our students for meaningful lives and productive careers.

**Course Policies and Practices:**Attendance and Participation Policy

Students are expected to attend all class meetings for which they are registered. This is regarded as a matter of individual student responsibility. The only excused reasons for absences will be illness that impairs the ability to attend and function within the classroom setting or an unavoidable personal emergency.

Students are expected to attend all class sessions on all days of class. It will be the responsibility of the student to contact the course instructor or site director, preferably before the absence, to provide the appropriate documentation and verification for the reason for the absence, and to make arrangements with the course instructor for missed work. Students are responsible for all missed class material. Students may be subject to limited participation in hands-on practice at the instructor's discretion if they have missed the underlying material needed to safely perform the task at hand.

**Final Exam Date:** March 25, 2025

**Special Services:** If you are a student with a disability, it is your responsibility to inform your instructor and register with the Office of Disability Services ([ods@findlay.edu](mailto:ods@findlay.edu)) at least one week prior to a needed service so reasonable accommodations can be made.

**Course and Instructor Evaluation:** Each student is expected to complete the course and instructor evaluation which is sent electronically to the student by the Office of the Registrar. The electronic notification comes in the form of an e-mail from the UF Registrar's Office with the following subject line: Online survey for the designated course (e.g., BIOL 102).

**Last Date of Attendance Policy:** Instructors are required to indicate the last known date of attendance when a final grade of "F" or "U" is assigned to a student.

**Tentative Course Outline****Lectures:**

Orientation, Animals in Thailand & Conservation  
Zoo and Wildlife tourism and ethics in SE Asia and around the world  
Herbivores and Insectivores  
Carnivores and Omnivores  
Primates  
Reptiles  
Birds  
Nutrition  
Animal behavior, Ethograms, and Enrichment  
Infectious Diseases in Asia/Zoonosis  
Capture and restraint of wild animals & Capture myopathy  
Radiography

Conservation  
Optional: Fish  
Optional: Amphibians

**Labs:**

Facility Tour  
Mammal Lab  
Carnivore Lab  
Ethograms of project animal  
Primate Lab  
Reptile Lab  
Blow Dart Lab  
Nutrition Lab  
Anesthesia Protocol Case Activity  
Shadow Zoo Vet Cases  
Ethograms  
Enrichment Planning/Building/Implementation  
Zoo Visit 1 - complete worksheet  
Zoo Visit 2- complete worksheet