

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: ANSC455: South Africa Zoo Husbandry and Management

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time/Place: Loop Abroad South Africa Loop Abroad South Africa; August 28-September 11, 2022

Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description:

This 2-week course takes place at the Lory Park Zoo in Johannesburg, South Africa, one of the few zoos in Africa accredited by the Pan African Association of Zoos and Aquaria. You will learn how to care for big cats, small cats, cubs, primates, birds, and reptiles in a zoo setting, including proper handling, husbandry, management, and enrichment. You will also learn about zoo involvement in research and community education and assist in these projects, as well as learn from specialists in the conservation and care of specific species, including the black-footed cat and vultures.

Instructor: Vivian Huacuja García, DVM; Tasch Sibilski

Instructor Contact Information: vivian.vhg@gmail.com; tasch@loopabroad.com

Office Hours: upon request

Course Objectives:

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

- **Understand** and **Apply** appropriate protocols for the feeding, husbandry, training, behavior observation, and enrichment of a variety of species of captive wildlife including felids, primates, reptiles, and birds
- **Analyze** the role of zoos in education, conservation, and research
- **Create** an ethogram and ongoing observation on an animal or group of animals
- **Create** an enrichment project designed for their needs
- **Evaluate** enrichment projects that were created during the course

Required Textbooks and Other Materials:

- Loop Abroad's: South Africa Zoo Husbandry and Management Workbook
- Materials for notes (notebook and/or laptop, writing utensils, etc.), wristwatch, snacks, refillable water bottle, insect repellent, and sunscreen.
- You may be asked to wear specific clothing items on certain days depending on the projects at hand.

Instructional Strategies:

Case Analysis	x	Library and Internet Research	x
Debate		Practice/drill	x
Discovery/Independent Research	x	Problem-solving	x
Discussion/Questioning/Interviewing	x	Reading assignments	x
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:

Abstracts		Participation	x
Attendance	x	Peer Evaluation	
Capstone Project		Portfolio	
Case Study		Portfolio Lab Performance	
Exams	x	Presentations	x
Group Projects	x	Professional Evaluation	x
Homework Assignments	x	Quizzes	
Internet Research		Research project	

Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance			
Oral/written review of literature			

Grading: Your course grade will be determined as follows:

Exam: 40%

Assignments: 40%

Class Participation and Lab Performance: 20%

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: September 9, 2022

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) 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:

This course will take place primarily at the Lory Park Zoo facility, where we will use the classroom, veterinary lab, and the zoo facility itself for lectures, labs, hands-on practice, research, and small group activities.

Below is the list of tentative Lectures and Labs and their description:

Lesson	Topic	Explanation
Lesson 1	Animal nutrition in captivity	You will learn to prepare food for a variety of species in accordance with their dietary needs, and learn about dietary and nutritional needs in captivity for a variety of Africa species
Lesson 2	Ethograms and enrichment	You and your group will learn to perform an ethogram and use it, in conjunction with other research, to design an enrichment for one of the captive animals at the project. You will then monitor your enrichment, suggest or implement improvements, and report on your species and enrichment project to your cohort.
Lesson 3	Big cats in captivity	Learn about big cat needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training.
Lesson 4	Conservation and zoo medicine	Learn about conservation medicine from Dr. Katja Koeppel. Assist in veterinary medicine including cat vaccinations and reptile deworming.
Lesson 5	Birds of prey and parrots in captivity	Learn about African birds of prey needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training. Practice

		parrot capture, restraint, and wing and nail clipping. Learn about genetic mutations in lorikeets.
Lesson 6	Necropsy and surgical practice	Learn how to perform a necropsy in order to better understand anatomy and diagnostics. Practice suture technique and surgical skills.
Lesson 7	Zoos in educational outreach	Learn how the zoo is educating about conservation in the community, and work on outreach projects in two local schools.
Lesson 8	Cubs in captivity and in South African conservation	Learn about cub needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training, as well as the role of cubs in South African conservation.
Lesson 9	Primates in captivity	Learn about lemurs and gibbon needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training.
Lesson 10	Special topics in conservation: vultures, hornbills, and black footed cats	Learn about conservation from the perspective of vultures, hornbills, and black-footed cats, with a focus on what's worked for these specific animals and why, and what's still needed.
Lesson 11	Reptiles in captivity	Learn about reptile needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training, as well as the effects of the illegal trade on reptiles.
Lesson 12	Animal welfare in captivity	Learn about animal welfare in captivity from Robynn Ingle Moller and apply what you've learned in a practical lab.
Lesson 13	Research and zoo medicine	Learn about the role of zoos in research from Dr. Katja Koepfel, and assist in veterinary medicine such as primate vaccinations and bird deworming.
Lesson 14	Small cats in captivity	Learn about small cat (serval, ocelot, black footed cat, and caracal) needs in captivity, including diet and nutrition, enclosure care and maintenance, and training, including a presentation on care for amputee animals