

# 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:** ANSC458: South Africa Wildlife Research

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Class Time/Place:** Loop Abroad South Africa; Fall 2022; September 25-October 9, 2022

**Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description:** This course takes place in South Africa at one of Loop Abroad's partner zoological institutions. It is part of Loop Abroad's South Africa Wildlife Semester Abroad program. The course focuses on research statistics and data analysis. Students will assist in research projects including collecting data in the field and seeing first-hand the role zoos play in contributing to wildlife research.

**Instructor:** Vivian Huacuja García, DVM; Tasch Sibilski

**Instructor Contact Information:** [vivian.vhg@gmail.com](mailto:vivian.vhg@gmail.com); [tasch@loopabroad.com](mailto:tasch@loopabroad.com)

**Office Hours:** upon request

## **Course Objectives:**

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

- **Understand** statistical interference (probability, probability distributions, sampling theory, hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, pitfalls of p-values)
- **Understand** when to apply which statistical procedure (ttest, ANOVA, linear correlation, non-parametric tests, relative risks, Chi-square test, exact tests, linear regression, logistical regression, survival analysis, etc)
- **Apply** knowledge gained to make informed choices with respect to methodology and research design
- **Apply** knowledge gained to identify South African plants, animals, and traditional medicines
- **Analyze** data collected during in-course field research
- **Analyze** the role zoos play in contributing to wildlife research
- **Evaluate** statistical literature, research articles, and the claims made on the basis of statistics
- **Evaluate**, infer, and understand a product, situation, services or a treatment option through statistics

**Required Textbooks and other materials:** All textbooks and readings will be provided during the course. On the first day of the course, students will be provided with a specialized coursepack.

**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	x
Experiential Learning	x	Role playing/simulation games	
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	
Group Projects		Professional Evaluation	
Homework Assignments	x	Quizzes	
Internet Research	x	Research project	
Journaling		Other	
Lab Performance	x		
Oral/written review of literature			

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

Exam: 40%

Assignments: 40%

Class Participation and 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:**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Grading Scale</b>
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 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:** October 7,, 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](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:**

Lecture Topics:

- How Zoos Participate in Research
- Camera Traps and Collecting Data
- Black Footed Cat
- Plant and spore ID, traditional medicines
- Introduction to Study Design
- Types, Storage, and Graphical Displays of Data
- Summarizing Data
- Quantifying Differences and Associations
- Making Inferences
- Significance Testing
- Paired Data
- Non-Parametric Tests

- Bootstrapping
- Beyond t-tests
- Displaying Results
- Revision/Evaluation

Lab Sessions:

- Research Collection
- Data Analysis
- Presenting Data Collected and Analysis