

The University of Findlay

Summer 2022

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

Course Number: ANSC458: Wildlife Research

Credit Hours: variable 1-3 credit hours

Class Time/Place:

Loop Abroad Costa Rica Sea Turtle Research: Session 1: June 12-18 (1 credit); Session 2; July 10-23 (2 credit)

Loop Abroad Costa Rica Dolphin Research: Session 1: June 5-11 (1 credit); Session 2: June July 3-9 (1 credit)

Loop Abroad Florida Coral Reef Research: Session 1: May 29-June 4 (1 credit)

Loop Abroad Thailand Elephant Research: Session 1: June 26- July 2 (1 credit); Session 2: July 10-16

Prerequisites, Co-requisites and Course Description: This Course takes place at one of Loop Abroad's partner zoological, conservation or research organizations. The course focuses on studying a specific species, research collection, and data analysis. Students will assist in research projects including collecting data in the field and seeing first-hand the role the research plays in contributing to the conservation of the species.

Instructor: Erica Ward, DVM

Instructor Contact Information: erica@loopabroad.com; (617) 412-1743

Office Hours: upon request

Course Objectives:

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

- **Understand** the biology and behavior of the species you are studying and its role in its ecosystem
- **Understand** the different ways to collect data and the pros and cons of each method
- **Apply** knowledge gained to make informed choices with respect to methodology and research design
- **Analyze** data collected during in-course field research
- **Analyze** the role the host organization plays in contributing to wildlife research

- **Evaluate** statistical literature, research articles, and the claims made on the basis of 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		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		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: 10%

Lab Performance: 10%

Grading Scale/Distribution:

Grade	Points	Grading Scale
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:

Loop Abroad Costa Rica Sea Turtle Research: Session 1: June 17; Session 2; July 22

Loop Abroad Costa Rica Dolphin Research: Session 1: June 10; Session 2: June July 8

Loop Abroad Florida Coral Reef Research: Session 1: June 3

Loop Abroad Thailand Elephant Research: Session 1: July 1; Session 2: July 15

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:

Lecture Topics:

- Biology and Behavior of the study species
- Research and work that is done by the host organization and how it is helpful to the species
- Introduction to Study Design
- Data Collection Methodology
- Summarizing and Presenting Data

Lab Sessions:

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