FW 312
Systematics of Birds -2 credits

COURSE CREDIT:
(2) This course combines approximately 60 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 2 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
One year introductory biology.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
FW 312. SYSTEMATICS OF BIRDS (2).
External anatomy, classification of birds of the world, and field identification of birds by sight and song. Field trips required.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For more information, contact: Tyler Hallman, Hovland 206, tyler.hallman@oregonstate.edu.

For more information, contact: BRUCE DUGGER, NASH 166, 541-737-2465

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:

Required Textbooks:
2. **Field guide** of your choice. You should bring a field guide to every lab period, especially field trips. Several different ones are quite good. The best is probably the National Geographic Guide. Some others are:


   **NOTE:** For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

   Students can also click the ‘OSU Beaver Store’ link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

**COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Our goal is to familiarize you with the basic vocabulary describing the morphology of birds, both external and internal, so that you can be conversant and educated about how birds are built, their life history traits, how they are evolutionarily related to one another, and how to identify them. Although we will not have time to learn how to identify every species, we want to give you the skills that will provide you the foundational knowledge for making correct identifications on your own. To meet that objective, we will survey the taxonomic orders of birds of the world, many of the major families, and many species. For identification of species, we will concentrate on birds that occur in your part of the world; different sets of species live in different places, so we will help you learn birds that live where you live. However, to be a well-trained biologist, we expect that you will be familiar with many birds that occur in other regions and on other continents.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the similarities and differences in systematics, taxonomy, phylogeny, and classification.
2. Explain current methods used by ornithologists who study systematics of birds.
3. Interpret phylogenetic trees that portray hypotheses of evolutionary relationships among birds.
4. Correctly name the external and internal morphological traits of birds.
5. Demonstrate correct identification of birds of the world by taxonomic kingdom, phylum, subphylum, class, subclass, superorder, order and family.
6. Correctly identify by common name at least 50 species of birds that occur in their home region.
7. Use internet resources to contribute bird observation data to scientific studies and to learn to identify birds by sound.
8. Summarize basic distribution, life history, and behavioral information about bird families throughout the world.

**COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignment/Quiz/Test</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction; Systematics</td>
<td>M of O: 1-46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Phylogenies and phylogenetic methods</td>
<td>M of O: 22-29; 308-317; PEB: 14-15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>External morphology</td>
<td>M of O: 47-116; PEB: 18-33</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Internal morphology</td>
<td>M of O: 117-151; 175-181; 190-195; 205-214; 219-226; 241-243</td>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>BOW I</td>
<td>PEB: 34-49, 130-145; 176-197</td>
<td>BOW 1 Quiz and Diagnostic Tweet</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>BOW II</td>
<td>PEB: 50-119</td>
<td>BOW 2 Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>BOW III</td>
<td>PEB: 146-147, 150-175; 198-211; 224-243; 248-249; 258-283</td>
<td>BOW 3 Quiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>BOW IV</td>
<td>PEB: 288-317; 322-341; 346-350; 352-363; 366-373; 390-395; 408-415</td>
<td>BOW 4 Quiz and Field Trip Report 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>BOW V</td>
<td>PEB: 424-428; 478-487; 508-510; 518-527; 530-539; 542-545; 550-561; 573-583; 590-591; 598-601; 611-615; 618-635</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>50 common species and citizen science</td>
<td></td>
<td>50 common species and Field Trip Report 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Final exam week</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final exam</td>
</tr>
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**FIELD TRIP:**

Field trips are the best way to learn to identify birds. Seeing birds in their natural habitats as they interact with other birds, forage, and sing is a great way to get to know particular species very well. Each student will be required to make two field trips to watch birds during the quarter.
One can be on your own, but at least one should be with local birdwatchers who can help teach you birds. Almost every town has an Audubon or local birding club that takes regular field trips. You will need to contact one of these groups and arrange to attend a field trip with them so they can help you learn some of the local birds by common name. Your course assignment pages will provide more information about this requirement and how to find birders to accompany you in the field.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

Grades:

Your course grade will be determined by scores on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total possible points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midterm exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Tweet</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds of the world quizzes</td>
<td>25 points each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trips</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 Common Species</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation/Discussion</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total points</td>
<td>470</td>
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Grades will be based on percent of the total possible score. We will use the following scale, although pluses or minuses may be employed for borderline grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89.9</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79.9</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69.9</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less than 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION

Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university's regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:

- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

TUTORING
For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING
The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available in week 9 and close at the end of finals week. Students will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. Students will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION
Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.