

Zoo and Aquarium Biology and Management
PAZ 4234
3 Credit Hours
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA & NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA
DISNEY'S ANIMAL KINGDOM
2023

Instructors: Dr. Gina Ferrie, Science Operations Manager, Disney's Animal Kingdom
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When: 9:00AM – 5:00 PM, May 8 – 12, May 15 – 19, 2023

Where: Disney's Animal Kingdom, Animal Programs Building, Inspiration classrooms.

Course Description: This course covers the care and welfare, propagation, and display of wild animals in zoos and aquariums as well as the missions of accredited zoos and aquariums. The course focuses on the applied aspects of biology/zoology and what is involved in managing wild animals in a zoo/aquarium environment. It also covers the role of zoos and aquariums in conservation, education, and research. The course is taught in a zoological/aquarium setting and lectures are provided by professional zoo and aquarium staff that specialize in various areas of the field.

Course Objectives: Completion of this course will develop a student's knowledge of the following topics.

- 1) Natural history and management of different taxonomic groups (fish, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians, birds, primates, ungulates)
- 2) The role of enrichment and training for animals in managed care
- 3) Nutrition
- 4) Veterinary Care
- 5) Reproduction and Contraception
- 6) Record Keeping
- 7) Population Management (AZA Species Survival Plans, Taxon Advisory Groups, cooperative breeding programs)
- 8) Education (developing programs, interpretive graphics, guest experience)
- 9) Conservation Programs
- 10) Research in a zoo/aquarium setting
- 11) Careers in zoos and aquariums

Course Prerequisites: Undergraduates with senior standing that have completed 20 hours in Biology including Ecology (PCB 3044) are eligible to register for this course.

Evaluation and Grading:

Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Class and Project Participation	50 points
Quizzes (2 Total)	50 points
Research Exercise	50 points
<u>Final Project</u>	<u>50 points</u>
Total:	400 points

Letter grades will be assigned using the following scale:

A	93%-100% (371-400 pts)
A-	90%-92% (359-370 pts)
B+	87%-89% (347-358 pts)
B	83%-86% (331-346 pts)
B-	80%-82% (319-330 pts)
C+	77%-79% (307-318 pts)
C	73%-76% (291-306 pts)
C-	70%-72% (279-290 pts)
D+	67%-69% (267-278 pts)
D	63%-66% (251-266 pts)
D-	60%-62% (239-250 pts)
F	0%-59% (< 239 pts)

Quizzes – are scheduled on the syllabus. Questions will be true/false, matching, multiple choice, or short-answer and cover material covered in prior lectures.

Exams - will be composed of a combination of true/false, matching, multiple-choice, short-answer and essay questions. While the second exam will not be cumulative in regards to specific details, you will learn concepts in the first week of the course that you will need to apply throughout.

Research Exercise - will be distributed in-class following the lecture on Research Methodology. You will be required to apply the techniques that were discussed in the lecture and collect data on animal behavior during scheduled course time. After collecting the data, you will need to summarize it and answer questions about different data collection methods. **This exercise will be due by 11:59pm on Monday May 15th.** The assignment should be typed and submitted through the Webcourses (or through email with prior approval).

Final Project - is a group project that will be distributed during the final class period. This project will require that you apply all the concepts that you were exposed to in this course. All materials and resources that you will need to complete this project will be provided.

Due to the tight schedule of this course, late assignments will not be accepted and makeup exams will not be given.

Attendance/Requirements: Attendance to all classes is mandatory. Missing a full class day will result in a 100 point penalty. Missing a half of a class day will result in a 50 point penalty. Arriving more than 30 minutes late to more than one day will result in a 10 point penalty for each day of late arrival thereafter.

Academic Integrity: As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow the University's Rules of Conduct (see <https://scai.sdes.ucf.edu/student-rules-of-conduct/>).

Conduct: Dress for the class is business casual. This means that you CANNOT wear any of the following: t-shirts, tank tops, flip flops, athletic shoes, ripped jeans, or shorts. Keep in mind that you will be in animal areas and thus you must wear close-toed shoes. The classroom can be rather chilly so we advise bringing a sweater or light jacket. Phone use will be limited to break times and are not permitted to be used during lectures or course activities in the classroom. Photographs and video of any kind are prohibited in all backstage areas, including use of phone cameras and video. **Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from the course, assignment of a failing grade, and report of the violation to the UCF office of Student Conduct for further disciplinary action.** Anyone unvaccinated for Covid-19 is asked to wear a mask and social distance.

Lunch and Breaks: You will be provided access to the cafeteria at Disney's Animal Kingdom to purchase lunch. Alternatively, you may bring your lunch and eat in the classroom. However, you are not permitted to leave the property and you are not permitted to enter the park during the lunch hour.

Please note that the schedule is subject to change at any time due to needs of the animals and operations of Disney's Animal Kingdom.