

BIOLOGY 307 – Chordate Zoology (Spring 2019)

(CRN 20318, TWF 10:30-11:20, Cornett Building A121)

Instructor: Dr. Amanda Edworthy, Cunn. 126A, aedworthy@uvic.ca (Office Hours: Thursday/Friday, 11:30 AM –12:30 PM, or by appointment)

The best way to contact Dr. Edworthy is by email at aedworthy@uvic.ca and please put “Biology 307” in the subject line.

Senior Laboratory Instructor: Dr. Rossi Marx, zoology@uvic.ca

Calendar Description: Chordates: evolutionary history and adaptations. Major taxonomic groups, with emphasis on derived and defining characteristics; locomotion, feeding, sensory systems and reproduction. Laboratory exercises include observations of prepared specimens, dissections, written assignments and oral presentations.

Aims: (1) Understand the link between morphological features of chordates and the ecological roles of these species.

(2) Define the set of morphological and physiological features that distinguish taxonomic groups of chordates from each other.

(3) Conceptualize the deep evolutionary history and global diversity of chordates.

(4) Identify and classify a range of chordate species, many of which are common in British Columbia.

Major topics covered:

- Overview and evolution of chordates
- Living in water
- Fish
- Living on land
- Amphibians
- Turtles and crocodiles
- Lizards and snakes
- Endothermy/ectothermy
- Birds
- Mammals

Marks Breakdown:

Mid-term Exam	20%	Friday, 15 February 2019
Final Exam	40%	TBA (8–27 April 2019)
Labs	40%	See separate instructions

Laboratory Classes: The requirements for the laboratory component of the course are covered in separate documentation. However, please note that the laboratory classes include demonstration and observation of live animals (but no experimentation). Students who do not want to participate in the live animal demonstration will be given the option of not taking part and relying solely on other materials (e.g., visual aids instead).

Examinations: The midterm examination will be based on all material presented or discussed in the course to that point. Some questions may involve evaluation of data/figures or tables that you may not have seen before. The final examination will be similar in structure and cumulative over the

entire course, based approximately 1/3 on material up to the midterm and 2/3 on material since the midterm.

Suggested text: Pough, F.H., C.M. Janis, and J.B. Heiser. 2013. Vertebrate Life, 9th Edition. Benjamin Cummings, San Francisco, CA.

Required readings: We also will read a variety of articles including ones from the primary and secondary literature, which will be available on our CourseSpaces website at least 3 days prior to the class in which they are discussed.

CourseSpaces Website: I will post all course announcements, readings, assignments, and the weekly lecture schedule on our CourseSpaces website. I will also post lecture slides. Please be aware that these are overviews, not detailed notes, and are provided to help you organize and supplement your lecture notes. It is therefore your responsibility to check our course website regularly for updates. See: <http://elearning.uvic.ca> if you have questions about how to use CourseSpaces.

Grading Scale:

Letter grade	Percentage
A+	90 – 100
A	85 – 89
A-	80 – 84
B+	77 – 79
B	73 – 76
B-	70 – 72
C+	65 – 69
C	60 – 64
D	50 – 59

For full UVIC grading scale see: <https://web.uvic.ca/calendar2019-01/undergrad/info/regulations/grading.html>

Missed Assignments and Examinations: Policy on missing an exam: If you miss (or know beforehand that you will be missing) an exam because of illness, accident, family affliction, or commitments as an UVic athlete, you are required to contact the instructor in a timely manner. No other excuses other than the above are allowed. You are required to provide supporting documentation i.e. from a medical doctor, UVic counseling services, or a member of the UVic coaching staff. Penalties for late assignments in the laboratory section will be discussed separately.

Academic Integrity: Academic Integrity: It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with UVic's Academic Integrity Policy regarding what constitutes plagiarism, how to avoid it, and the potential consequences.

Additional useful information, including use of "common knowledge" can be found at <https://integrity.mit.edu/handbook/citing-your-sources/what-common-knowledge>.