

Vertebrates of British Columbia

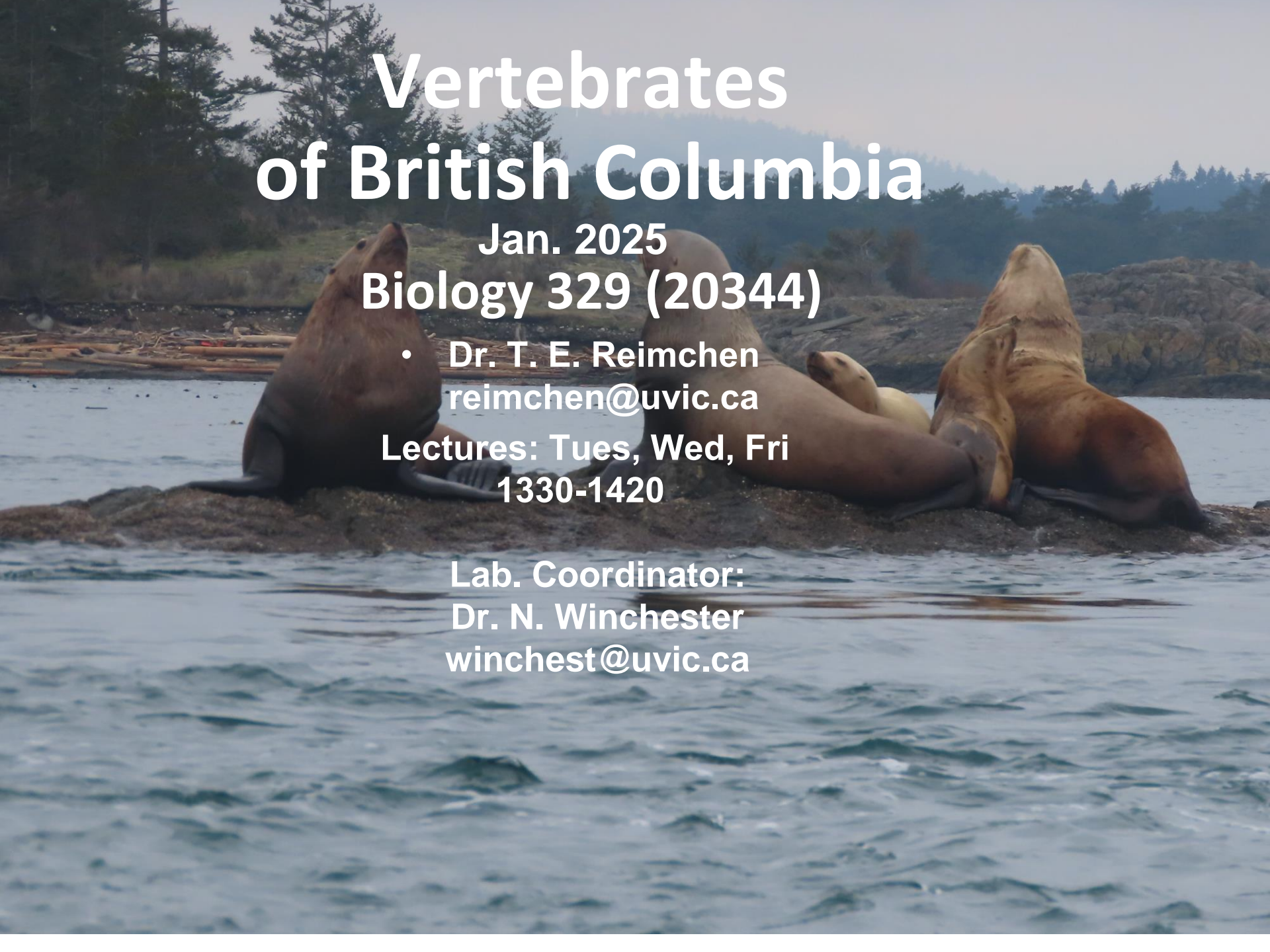
Jan. 2025

Biology 329 (20344)

- Dr. T. E. Reimchen
reimchen@uvic.ca

Lectures: Tues, Wed, Fri
1330-1420

Lab. Coordinator:
Dr. N. Winchester
winchest@uvic.ca



Lecture Outline

Introduction

Geological timetable and the origin of the Tetrapods

Amphibians: evolution and life history

BC issues: species diversity, distribution, conservation

Reptiles: evolution and natural history

BC issues: species diversity, distribution, conservation

Birds: evolution, natural history, flight, vision, hearing, foraging

BC issues: species diversity, seabird life histories, loons, raptors, conservation

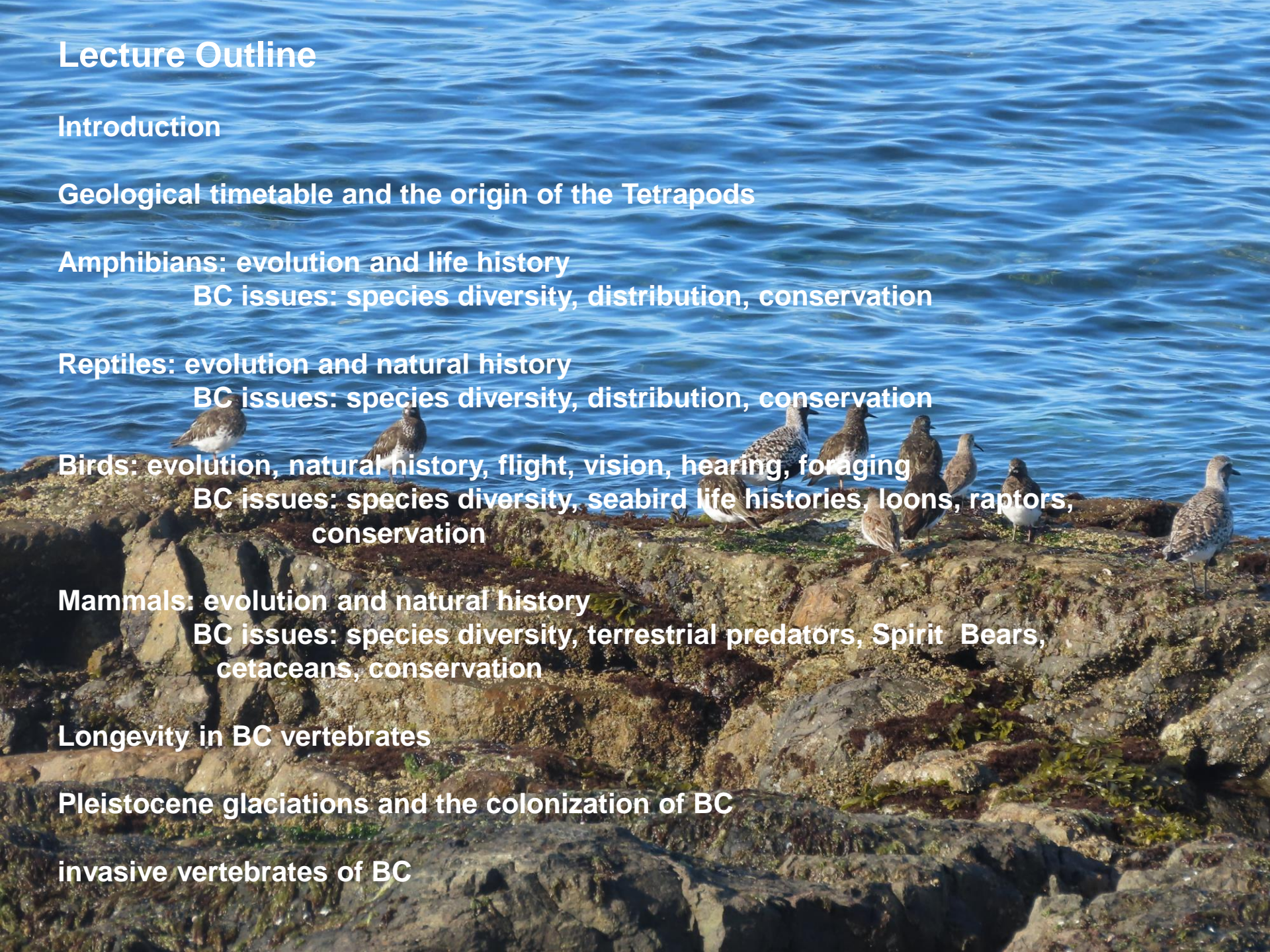
Mammals: evolution and natural history

BC issues: species diversity, terrestrial predators, Spirit Bears, cetaceans, conservation

Longevity in BC vertebrates

Pleistocene glaciations and the colonization of BC

invasive vertebrates of BC





BIOLOGY 329 -LAB SCHEDULE- Spring 2025

Dr. Neville Winchester: Email address: winchest@uvic.ca

WEEK OF	TOPIC
January 6	NO LABS
January 13	Biodiversity of Birds 1 – Loons-Ducks
January 20	Biodiversity of Birds 2 – Birds of Prey-Cranes
January 27	Biodiversity of Birds 3 – Shorebirds-Alcids
February 3	Biodiversity of Birds 4 – Pigeons-Woodpeckers
February 10	Midterm Exam – Identification
February 17	Reading Break – No labs
February 24	Biodiversity of Birds 5 – Perching Birds Part 1
March 3	Biodiversity of Birds 6 – Perching Birds Part 2
March 10	Biodiversity of Small Mammals
March 17	Biodiversity of Large Mammals
March 24	Final Exam – Identification
March 30	No labs

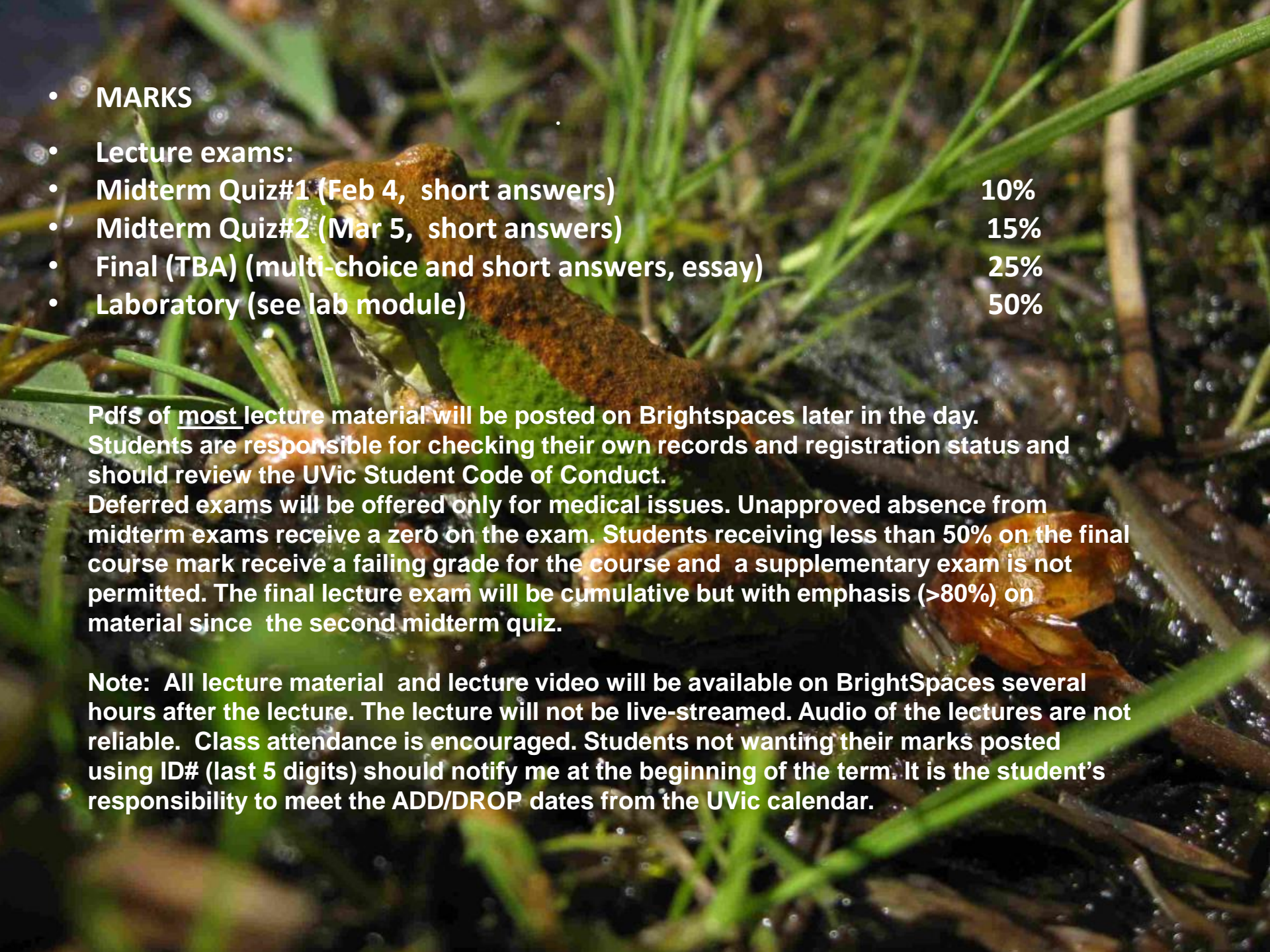
NOTE: Amphibian and Reptile identification will be a module component in the first 3 labs

Field Trips You must attend 2 field trips and **complete an E-bird check list** combining both field trips. The checklists will be submitted at the end of the course (April 4). Details about the E-bird checklist will be discussed in the lab. These field trips will be posted each week on the [Biology 329 BRS page](#).

IMPORTANT DATES & GRADING SCHEME

Midterm: Identification Exam – Details of this exam will be discussed in the lab	18%
Final: Identification Exam – Details of this exam will be discussed in the lab	22%
E-bird check lists: Due April 4 by 4:30	10%
TOTAL	50%

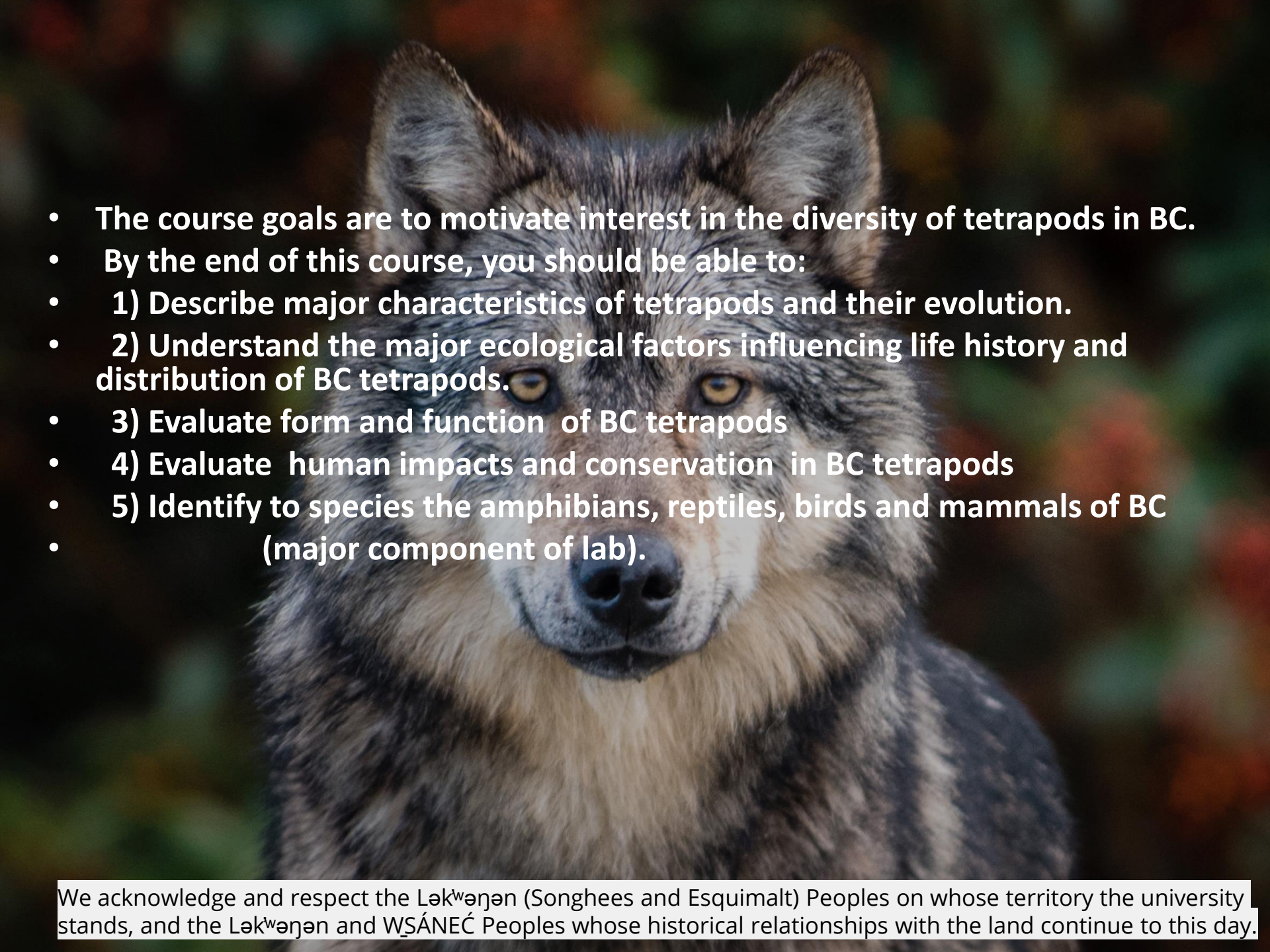


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- A green and brown frog is perched on a grassy field, serving as the background for the text.
- **MARKS**
 - **Lecture exams:**
 - **Midterm Quiz#1 (Feb 4, short answers) 10%**
 - **Midterm Quiz#2 (Mar 5, short answers) 15%**
 - **Final (TBA) (multi-choice and short answers, essay) 25%**
 - **Laboratory (see lab module) 50%**

Pdfs of most lecture material will be posted on Brightspaces later in the day. Students are responsible for checking their own records and registration status and should review the UVic Student Code of Conduct.

Deferred exams will be offered only for medical issues. Unapproved absence from midterm exams receive a zero on the exam. Students receiving less than 50% on the final course mark receive a failing grade for the course and a supplementary exam is not permitted. The final lecture exam will be cumulative but with emphasis (>80%) on material since the second midterm quiz.

Note: All lecture material and lecture video will be available on BrightSpaces several hours after the lecture. The lecture will not be live-streamed. Audio of the lectures are not reliable. Class attendance is encouraged. Students not wanting their marks posted using ID# (last 5 digits) should notify me at the beginning of the term. It is the student's responsibility to meet the ADD/DROP dates from the UVic calendar.

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- The course goals are to motivate interest in the diversity of tetrapods in BC.
 - By the end of this course, you should be able to:
 - 1) Describe major characteristics of tetrapods and their evolution.
 - 2) Understand the major ecological factors influencing life history and distribution of BC tetrapods.
 - 3) Evaluate form and function of BC tetrapods
 - 4) Evaluate human impacts and conservation in BC tetrapods
 - 5) Identify to species the amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals of BC
 - (major component of lab).

We acknowledge and respect the Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.