Date: March 2, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: CON 237

Course Name: Black Bear Management I

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 1 credit hour – 1 contact hour

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites: Course covers the identification, natural history and management of black bears in North America with special emphasis on New York State. Students who enroll in this course are also expected to take CON 238 Black Bear Management II the following semester. 
Prerequisite: CON 102

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

1. Identify the characteristics of black bears that set them apart from grizzly bears (professional competency)
2. Identify black bear sign including tracks, scat, bites, scratches and trails (professional competency)
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the natural history of black bears, including denning, mating, feeding and habitat requirements through oral presentation and examination (professional competency; oral communication)
4. List several major factors involved in making management decisions regarding black bears in NY including hunting, research and habitat protection (professional competency; critical thinking; ethics/values)
5. Demonstrate the proper use of GPS and telemetry gear as it is used in black bear management (professional competency; information resources)
6. Students and faculty will collaborate to design and begin to implement a research project intended to last into Black Bear Management II. (professional competency; critical thinking; information resources; reading)

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum:

This course is an appropriate CON elective for all CON degrees and is a prerequisite for CON 238 Black Bear Management II.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

☐ writing  ☐ computer literacy
☐ oral communications  ☐ ethics/values
III. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Journal articles, worksheets, equipment usage

Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar ...):

Lecture, field experiences, guest speakers, hands-on work with equipment, project based learning, search of published works

IV. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed):

Assessment will take place in the form of exams, participation in class discussion, actual demonstration of equipment usage in the field and a written project.

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

1. Identification of black bear and black bear sign
2. Natural history of black bears
3. Introduction to research techniques
4. Management of black bears in NY State
5. Safety in the presence of black bears
6. GPS and telemetry
7. Field research project