

Date: March 2, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: CON 236

Course Name: Wetland Mammals

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites: This residential course will be held at the Muller Field Station over two weekends plus two additional class meetings. The focus of the course will be the natural history, research and management of four wetland mammals: beaver, muskrat, mink and river otter. Students will design and conduct a field study. Students will be required to stay at the Muller Field Station for the two weekends as some field work is done in the late evenings and early mornings, rain or shine. Students will be required to canoe. *Prerequisite: CON 102*

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

1. Identify the characteristics of beaver, muskrat, mink and river otter (professional competency)
2. Identify wetland mammal sign including tracks, scat, and dens (professional competency)
3. Describe the natural history of wetland mammals, including mating, feeding and habitat requirements (professional competency)
4. List several major factors involved in making management decisions regarding wetland mammals in NY including trapping, research and habitat protection (professional competency; critical thinking; ethics/values)
5. Design implement and present (orally with accompanying written component) the results of a field study focusing on one or more of the wetland mammals covered in the course (professional competency; critical thinking; oral communication; mathematics; information resources)

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum:

This course is an appropriate CON elective for all CON degrees and a general elective for students in other degrees.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

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|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> Computer literacy |
| X Oral communications | X Ethics/values |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship |
| X Mathematics | <input type="checkbox"/> Global concerns |
| X Critical thinking | X Information resources |

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):

Exams, written research plan, participation in field project, oral presentation of field project results

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

1. Identification of wetland mammals and their sign
2. Natural history of wetland mammals
3. Introduction to research techniques
4. Management of wetland mammals in NY State
5. Field research project