BIOLOGY 5402 - FALL 2012
MAMMALOGY
COURSE INFORMATION

Office: Kleberg Engineering 116 -- Telephone: 361 593-3580 -- e-mail: kfjab02@tamuk.edu
Baskin's home page: users.tamuk.edu/kfjab02/

OFFICE HOURS: 8-9 M; 10-11:30, 2-4 W, F; 9:30-11:30, 1:30-3:30 T; or by appointment.
University duties, such as committee meetings, may prevent me from being in my office.
I will also usually be available in the laboratory (KBE 123) M afternoon. If you have any
questions or concerns, please talk to me before or after class or phone me at the office for
an appointment

FURTHER INFORMATION: See the syllabus for Biology 4429 for further information concerning
required textbooks, lecture and laboratory schedule, grading policy, field
trip schedule, and information regarding misconduct and other policies.
http://users.tamuk.edu/kfjab02/Biology/Mammalogy/WordDocs/BIOL%204429001_201010.doc

OBJECTIVES: The purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the identification,
systematics, life history, and adaptive strategies of the Mammalia and to expose them to field
techniques used in their study. Graduate students will demonstrate in depth mastery of the
subject matter by writing a term paper and completing a comprehensive final examination. The
purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the identification, systematics, life history, and
adaptive strategies of the Mammalia and to expose them to field techniques used in their study.
Graduate students will demonstrate in depth mastery of the subject matter by writing a term
paper and completing a comprehensive final examination.

LEARNER OUTCOMES: Upon completion of the course, students will:

1. Learn how to construct cladograms and be able to use them to explore mammalian
diversity within a phylogenetic framework.
2. Be able to place any mammalian specimen (whether or not you have seen it before) to
Order and Family, and you should be able to suggest its food habits from an examination
of its teeth and jaw structure, or to suggest its locomotory mode (and thus habitat) from
an examination of its limb bones.
3. Be able to use natural history characteristics to determine potential solutions to
conservation of endangered species and be able to successfully communicate this both
orally and in writing.
4. Be able to utilize data from capture recapture studies to estimate population sizes and to
compare populations from different study sites.
Your grade will be determined in the following manner:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
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<td>Exam 3</td>
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<td>Exam 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>Research paper</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab midterm</td>
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<td>Lab final</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>900</strong></td>
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The term paper will deal with a focused research area of interest to the graduate student. The topic must be approved by the instructor. The paper can be the result of a research project carried out by the student specifically for this course or it can be an analysis of a current topic in mammalogy. References must come from the recent primary literature. The student will turn in copies of these papers (which will be returned) to demonstrate that these papers were consulted by the student. The paper should be approximately 15 pages [of text] long, typed, double spaced. A preliminary draft must be turned in at midsemester.