

WFS 340
Wetlands Ecology and Management
Fall 2013

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Required Text: Wetland Restoration and Construction, 2011 (978-0-9834558-0-6)
Author: Thomas Biebighauser

Recommended Text: Wetlands, 2007, 4th edition (ISBN 978-0-471-69967-5) *or*
Wetlands, 2000, 3rd edition (ISBN 0-471-29232-X)
Authors: William J. Mitsch and James G. Gosselink

Course Goal: To expose students to the basic principles of wetland ecology and management via class lectures, labs, and field experiences.

Course Topics:

- What is a Wetland?
- Wetland Regulations
- Wetland Classification via Cowardin et al. (1979)
- Wetland Plant, Waterbird, and Amphibian ID
- Wetland Losses and Human Impacts (assigned as podcast)
- Wetland Restoration and Construction
- Wetland Management (agriculture, moist-soil, and green-tree reservoirs)
- Waterfowl Carrying Capacity (duck-energy days, DED) Estimation

Required Materials: Field Clothes and Boots, Raingear, Camping Gear, Calculator, Laptop

Weights of Academic Assessments and Grading Scale:

The exam, lab practicum, DED assignment, and participation (field trip attendance) will be weighted as follows:

- Exam: 50% (**Tuesday, 12 November 2013** at 7:30 am)
- Lab Practicum: 30% (**Tuesday, 3 December 2013** at 9:00 am)
- DED Assignment: 10% (due **Tuesday, 3 December 2013** by 5:00 pm)
- Participation: 10% (see page 2)

Your course grade will be determined using the following straight¹ scale:

Grade	Final Weighted Percent		Grade	Final Weighted Percent
A	90–100%		C	70–76%
B+	87–89%		D	60–69%
B	80–86%		F	<60%
C+	77–79%			

¹Exam, practicum, and DED assignment will not be curved.

Attendance:

Attendance during the Tennessee Amphibian Monitoring Program (TAMP) as well as the 3-day field trip to Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi will count for 10% of your final grade. You must be present during the workshops and participate in all field trip activities to receive 10% (2% for each ½ day and the TAMP workshop). Attendance at lectures is not mandatory but strongly recommended.

Tentative Schedule: 1, 5, 7–12 November, 3 December (lecture, labs, and tests)*
12–15 November (field trip to Mississippi)**

*Meeting time is 8:30–12:00 and 1:30–5:00 daily in 156/157 PBB.

Exceptions: Meeting time on 1 Nov is 8:00–11:00 and 12:00–4:00 pm, and we will start at 8 am on 11 Nov. Also, the lecture exam starts at 7:30 am in 114 PSB on 12 Nov.

**We will leave Knoxville by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 12 November. The field trip will end at 5:00 p.m. on 15 November.

28 October –1 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning	FWF 415: Habitat Management				Wetland Definition *(8:00 – 11 am) 156/7 PBB
Afternoon					TAMP Workshop *(12 – 4 pm) 156/7 PBB

4–8 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	WFS 305: Prescribed Fire	Wetland Classification 156/7 PBB	WFS 305: Prescribed Fire	Wetland Management (moist-soil management & agriculture) 156/7 PBB	Capacity Estimation Lecture 156/7 PBB
Afternoon		Waterbird and Wetland Plant ID 156/7 PBB Human Impacts (podcast)		Wetland Management (above continued and GTRs) 156/7 PBB	Capacity Estimation Assignment & Lab Exercise 156/7 PBB

11–15 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Wetland Restoration (156/7 PBB) *(start at 8:00 am)	LECTURE EXAM *(7:30–9:30) 114 PSB Leave for Noxubee (10:00 am)	Noxubee NWR (moist-soil units, GTRs, aquatic plant management)	Meet Drs. Rick Kaminski and Brian Davis MSU Presentations	Leave Noxubee NWR at 9:00 a.m. and return to Knoxville by 5:00 p.m.
Afternoon	OPEN (Study for Lecture Exam)	Visit Briefly with Refuge Staff, Watch Video	Noxubee NWR (non-game management and research)	MSU Captive Wildlife Facility & Entomology Museum	

2–6 December:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning	OPEN Study for Practicum	PRACTICUM *(9:00–12:00) (156/7 PBB)			
Afternoon		DED Assignment due by 5:00 p.m.			

Extra Credit:

You can positively influence your grade as much as **4.5%** by volunteering for extra credit. Your volunteer work however must be related to wetlands or wetland fauna (e.g., amphibians, waterbirds). For every **8 hours** of volunteer work, your final grade will be increased by **1.5%** up to 4.5% (24 hours total). All volunteering must be completed before **06 December 2013**. A volunteer form (see website) must be filled out by the supervising individual and submitted to Dr. Gray.

GENERAL POLICIES**Testing Policy:**

Make-up exams and practicums will **not** be given without a *bona fide* written and signed excuse from a vouching authority (e.g., physician, funeral announcement). The telephone number of the vouching individual must be provided with the written explanation. All tests are required.

Academic Misconduct: Group learning and studying is encouraged; however, academic misconduct on tests or assignments (including **copying Excel files** used in the duck-energy day assignment) will not be tolerated and result in immediate dismissal from and failure of the course. In the case of copying Excel files, the student that provided the Excel file also will receive an “F” in the course.

Learning Distractions: Please turn off pagers and cell phones prior to class and lab.

ADA Accommodation:

Any student who, because of a disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make such accommodations as may be necessary.

Religious Holy Day Observance:

A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence IF, not later than the FIFTEENTH day after the first day of the semester (i.e., 09/09/13), the student had notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.