

WFS 340
Wetlands Ecology and Management
Fall 2016

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Required Readings: Handed out in class or emailed.

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 Waterbird, Amphibian, and Reptile ID
- Wetland Values
- Wetland Losses and Human Impacts
- Wetland Restoration and Conservation Programs
- Waterfowl Surveys and Regulations
- 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: 40% (**Wed, 23 November 2016** at 9:00 am)
- Lab Practicum: 30% (**Monday, 14 November 2016** at 2:00 pm)
- DED Assignment: 10% (due **Friday, 2 December 2016** by 5:00 pm)
- Management Plan: 10% (due **Friday, 2 December 2016** 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 is required during all guest lectures (0.5% each x 4 = 2%) as well as the TAMP Workshop (1%) and field trips to Lick Creek Bottoms WMA (1%) and Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi (1.5% for each ½ day = 6%) for a total of 10% of your final grade. Attendance at other lectures is not mandatory but strongly recommended.

Tentative Schedule:

7–23 Nov, 2 Dec (lecture, labs, and tests)*

15–18 November (field trip to Mississippi)**

*Meeting time is 8:30–12:00 and 1:30–5:00 daily in **Hollingsworth Auditorium** unless indicated otherwise (see below – 10 Nov AM and Lab Practicum on 14 Nov).

**We will leave Knoxville at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, 15 November.

The field trip will end at 5:00 p.m. on 18 November.

7–11 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Introduction to WFS 340 (Gray) Reptile ID (<i>B. Sutton, TSU</i>)	What is a wetland? Wetland values & losses (Gray)	Surveying Wetlands (<i>A. Ludwig</i> , BESS ; Graves) Meet at 8 :00 am	Annual cycle of wetland wildlife (Gray) Waterfowl Regulations (<i>J. Feddersen, TWRA</i>) – 115 Ellington	Wetland Management (above continued and GTRs) – Gray
Afternoon	Waterbird ID and Wing Characteristics (Graves)	West TN Wetland Losses (<i>S. Oswalt, USFS</i>) Wetland Restoration & Conservation (Graves)	TAMP Workshop (12 – 4:00 pm, <i>B. English</i>)	Wetland Management (moist-soil management & agriculture) – Gray	Capacity Estimation (Lecture, Assignment, Lab Exercise) – Gray

14–18 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	OPEN (Study for Lab Practicum)	Leave for Noxubee NWR (8:00 am)	Noxubee NWR (wetland management: waterfowl capture; moist-soil, GTR & lake management; DED field exercise)	Noxubee NWR (non-game management: RCWs, bats, squirrels)	Leave Noxubee NWR at 9:00 a.m. and return to Knoxville by 5:00 p.m.
Afternoon	LAB PRACTICUM (2:00–4:00) (<i>160 Plant Biotech</i>)	Visit Briefly with Refuge Staff, Watch Video		**Mist netting at night for owls & bats**	

21–26 November:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Lick Creek Bottoms WMA Field Trip (7:30 am) – return before 5 pm	OPEN (Study for Lecture Exam)	LECTURE EXAM (9:00–11:00)	NO CLASS THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
Afternoon		OPEN (Study for Lecture Exam)	OFF FOR THANKSGIVING		

Extra Credit:

You can positively influence your grade as much as **4.5%** by volunteering for extra credit. Your volunteer work must be related to wildlife ecology. 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 **02 December 2016**. 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 cell phones on silent 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., 09/02/16), the student had notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.