WFS 340
Wetlands Ecology and Management
Spring 2007

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Authors: William J. Mitsch and James C. Gosselink

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

Course Topics:
- What is a Wetland?—USACE Definition
- Wetland Regulations
- Wetland Classification via Cowardin et al. (1979)—USFWS Protocol
- Wetland Plant, Waterfowl, Shorebird, and Amphibian ID
- Wetland Losses and Human Impacts
- Wetland Values
- Wetland Management (agriculture, moist-soil, and green-tree reservoirs)
- Waterfowl Carrying Capacity (duck-use day) Estimation
- Wetland Impoundment Construction

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

Weights of Academic Assessments and Grading Scale:

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

- Exam: 50% (Tuesday, 20 March 2007 at 7:30 am)
- Lab Practicum: 30% (Wednesday, 7 March 2007 at 8:30 am)
- DUD Assignment: 10% (due Friday, 23 March 2007 by 5:00 pm)
- Participation: 10% (see page 2)

Your course grade will be determined using the following straight\(^1\) scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Final Weighted Percent</th>
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<th>Final Weighted Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90–100%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>70–76%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87–89%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>60–69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80–86%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77–79%</td>
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\(^1\)Exam, practicum, and DUD assignment will not be curved.
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 by **27 April 2007**. A volunteer form (see website) must be filled out by the supervising individual.

Attendance:

Attendance on the 3-day field trip to Noxubee Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi will count for 10% of your final grade. You must participate in all field trip activities to receive 10% (2% deduction for each missed activity). Attendance at lectures is not mandatory.

Tentative Schedule: 1–2, 5–7, 19–20 March (lecture, indoor labs and exercises)*
20–23 March (field trip to Mississippi)**

*Meeting time is 8:30–12:00 and 1:30–5:00 daily in 156/157 PBB.
**We will leave Knoxville at 10:00 a.m. on Tues, 20 March, and return around 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 23 March.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- **Wednesday (7 March):** Practicum in Hollingsworth Auditorium.
- **Tuesday (20 March):** Test starts at **7:30 am** in 156/157 PBB.

### 26 February–2 March:

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wetland Definition, Wetland Regulations</td>
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<td>Afternoon</td>
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<td>Wetland Classification via Cowardin et al. (1979)</td>
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### 5–9 March:

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<th>Monday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning</td>
<td>Wetland Management (agriculture &amp; moist-soil management)</td>
<td>Carrying Capacity Estimation</td>
<td><strong>PRACTICUM</strong> (Classification &amp; Waterbird, Amphibian, and Plant ID)</td>
<td>Annual Meeting of the TN Chapter of The Wildlife Society</td>
<td><strong>Spring Break</strong> Begins for Spring Camp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Wetland Management (green-tree reservoir management)</td>
<td>(Finish up if necessary)</td>
<td><strong>TN TWS Meeting</strong> (leave at: 11:00 am)</td>
<td>Townsend, TN</td>
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19–23 March:

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<th>Morning</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wetland Impoundment Construction</td>
<td>EXAM (7:30–9:30)</td>
<td>Noxubee NWR</td>
<td>Meet Dr. Rick Kaminski, MSU Presentations</td>
<td>Drive back to Knoxville (7–8 hours)</td>
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<td>Leave for Noxubee (10:00 am)</td>
<td>(moist-soil units, GTRs, aquatic plant management)</td>
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<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>Answer DUD Questions, Final Exam Review</td>
<td>Visit Briefly with Refuge Staff, Watch Video</td>
<td>Noxubee NWR (wood duck and RCW management, bat research)</td>
<td>Meet Dr. Steve Demarais, MSU Captive Wildlife Facility</td>
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**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-use day assignment) will not be tolerated and result in immediate dismissal from and failure of 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., 01/25/07), the student had notified the instructor of each scheduled class that the student would be absent for a religious holy day.