

**WFS 340**  
**Wetlands Ecology and Management**  
**Spring 2007**

**Instructor:** Dr. Matthew Gray (*mgray11@utk.edu*)  
**Phone:** 974-2740 (office), 385-0772 (cell)  
**Office:** 247 Ellington Plant Sciences Building  
**Website:** <http://fwf.ag.utk.edu/mgray/wfs340/340home.htm>

**Graduate Assistant:** John Laux (*jlaux@utk.edu*, 201 Ellington PSB, 974-3897)

**Required Text:** Wetlands, 2000, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition (ISBN 047129232X)  
**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<sup>1</sup> 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%			

<sup>1</sup>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:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning				Wetland Definition, Wetland Regulations	Waterbird, Amphibian, and Wetland Plant ID
Afternoon				Wetland Classification via Cowardin et al. (1979)	Human Impacts and Wetland Values

**5–9 March:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Wetland Management (agriculture & moist-soil management)	Carrying Capacity Estimation	<b>PRACTICUM</b> (Classification & Waterbird, Amphibian, and Plant ID)	Annual Meeting of the TN Chapter of The Wildlife Society Townsend, TN	<b>Spring Break</b> Begins for Spring Camp
Afternoon	Wetland Management (green-tree reservoir management)	(Finish up if necessary)  OPEN (Study)	<b>TN TWS Meeting</b>  (leave at: 11:00 am)		

**19–23 March:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday
Morning	Wetland Impoundment Construction	<b>EXAM</b> (7:30–9:30) <b>Leave for Noxubee</b> (10:00 am)	Noxubee NWR (moist-soil units, GTRs, aquatic plant management)	Meet Dr. Rick Kaminski, MSU Presentations	Drive back to Knoxville (7–8 hours)
Afternoon	Answer DUD Questions, Final Exam Review	Visit Briefly with Refuge Staff, Watch Video	Noxubee NWR (wood duck and RCW management, bat research)	Meet Dr. Steve Demarais, MSU Captive Wildlife Facility	

**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.