



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Ornithology
Course Code:	2014105-2
Program:	Bachelor of Zoology
Department:	Biology Department
College:	College of Sciences
Institution:	Taif University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours:
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: 11th Level/4th year
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): Vertebrates (2013204-3)
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): None

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	3 hours /week	100%
2	Blended	-	-
3	E-learning	-	-
4	Distance learning	-	-
5	Other	-	-

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	30
2	Laboratory/Studio	-
3	Tutorial	-
4	Others (specify)	-
	Total	30

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description: Ornithology is the scientific study of birds. This course is designed so that the student will achieve a general understanding of birds and how they function. This objective requires a synthesis of several fields of zoology (taxonomy, ecology, field identification of birds, anatomy, physiology, behavior, and conservation) as they apply to birds.
2. Course Main Objective: The principle objective for this course is to build a foundation of knowledge about general themes in avian ecology (e.g. feathers, flight, migration, mating, foraging).

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding:	
1.1	Recognize facts, principles, scientific terminology and concepts across class Aves.	K1
1.2	Classify birds based on their different characteristics.	K2

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
2	Skills:	
2.1	Investigate scientific problems related to birds conservation and biodiversity protection.	S2
2.2	Utilize basic concepts of ornithology in economic and environmental approaches.	S3
3	Values:	
3.1	Communicate effectively using the proper presentation forms and scientific language.	V1
3.2		V2

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Chapter 1 Introduction to Ornithology. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of birds • Birds Identification The importance of birds to the environment and humans	6L
2	Chapter 2 Bird Taxonomy	2L
3	Chapter 3 Feathers and Plumages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural basics of feathers • Types of feathers: distribution, forms, and functions • Molts and plumages • Feather care Coloration	2L
4	Chapter 4 Avian Flight <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aerodynamics Power for flight	2L
5	Chapter 5 Avian Migration and Dispersal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of movements • Patterns in migration • How birds time their migrations • Orientation and navigation • Dispersal • Migratory birds in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Threats to migratory bird species	4L
6	Chapter 6 Avian Anatomy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digestive System in Birds • The Respiratory System • The Urogenital System • Skeletal System • Muscular System • Circulatory System Sense organs in birds	6L
7	Chapter 7	2L

	Avian Mating and Social Behavior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The diversity of mating systems • Costs and benefits of social behavior 	
8	Chapter 8 Breeding Biology of Birds and Bird Conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing of breeding • Breeding territories • Nests and nest building • Eggs, Clutch size, Incubation and Hatching • Altricial and precocial young • Parental care • Conservation biology • Major threats to bird populations Conservation solutions	6L
Total		30L

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding:		
1.1	Recognize facts, principles, scientific terminology and concepts across across class Aves.	Lecture Brain storming	Paper-based exams
1.2	Classify birds based on their different characteristics.	Lecture Open discussion	Paper-based exams
2.0	Skills:		
2.1	Investigate scientific problems related to birds conservation and biodiversity protection.	Cooperative learning Brain storming	Paper-based exams
2.2	Utilize basic concepts of ornithology in economic and environmental approaches.	Cooperative learning	Paper-based exams
3.0	Values:		
3.1	Communicate effectively using the proper presentation forms and scientific language.	Small group activities Open discussion	Activities Evaluation
3.2			

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Activities	Variable	10
2	Midterm Exam	7 th	20
3	Periodic Exam	11 th	20
4	Final Exam	12 th	50

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice:

6 hours per week (as defined in the teaching schedule of the faculty member) for academic advice and consultations.

Teaching staff is also available using Blackboard web site and Taif University “Edugate” System

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Scott, G. (2010) <i>Essential Ornithology</i> . OUP Oxford, New York, 162p.
Essential References Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Koenig, H. E., Kobrel, R. and Liebich, H. S. (2017). <i>Avian Anatomy: Textbook and Colour Atlas</i>. Sheffield, UK: 5M Publications. أ.س.كنج و ج.ماكلياند (١٩٩٨) موجزات التشريح الطيري (مترجم). الناشر جامعة الملك سعود.
Electronic Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blackboard website Website of Saudi digital Library
Other Learning Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPT-files and movies for teaching vertebrates CD on Dev Bio Laboratory: Vade Mecum

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Classroom (capacity not more than 40 students) for 2 h/week.
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laptop Data show Blackboard
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	Preserved samples

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Effectiveness of teaching and assessment	Students	Indirect
Quality of learning resources	Peer Reviewer Students	Direct Indirect
Extent of achieving the course learning outcomes	Peer Reviewer Students	Direct Indirect

Evaluation areas (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	Biology Department
Reference No.	Committee number no. 14 - Academic Year 1442-1443H
Date	22/5/2022G – 23/10/1443H

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