
Fall 2025

College of the Redwoods



Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2025

Course ID & Section #number: FNR-87-E9177 Introduction to Wildlife Ecology and Management

Instructor's name: Valerie Elder

Day/Time of required meetings: Lab: 4:00-7:10 PM

Lectures are online asynchronous

Location: AT 127

Course units: 2



Instructor Contact Information



Office location or *Online: [Zoom \(https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/88256457451?pwd=XOdI2dhI0wPP3JIR7zICqGxeUEkvc2.1\)](https://redwoods-edu.zoom.us/j/88256457451?pwd=XOdI2dhI0wPP3JIR7zICqGxeUEkvc2.1) or In-person at AT 134



Office hours: M/W 8:15-8:45 AT 134 or by Zoom/appointment

Office phone number: 707-476-4328

Email address: valerie-elder@redwoods.edu (<mailto:valerie-elder@redwoods.edu>)

Pronto is usually the fastest way to get ahold of me, but I strive to respond in 24 hours M-F.



Required Material

This course does not require a textbook. PDF and weblinks to required readings are posted in modules or handouts.



Catalog Description

An introduction to the theories and applications of wildlife ecology and conservation. Lectures and discussions will include population dynamics, habitat requirements, animal behavior, and human interactions with wildlife. Field exercises include identifying wildlife species and habitat, as well as other common wildlife techniques.



Course Student Learning Outcomes

- (LEC) Describe and analyze the factors affecting wildlife populations including habitat relationships, species ecology, and human impacts.
- (LEC) Discuss the impacts of forest management, agriculture, and other human endeavors, including policy decisions, on wildlife.
- (LEC/LAB) Conduct basic level research into wildlife questions and write a scientifically-oriented paper.
- (LAB) Measure and analyze various components of wildlife habitat and discuss how different species utilize habitat.



Course Calendar

****Subject to change with fair notice, due to weather or other events we may need to be flexible. Check email/canvas announcements and pronto before coming to class **** Not all assignments are listed below but this serves as a reference for most**** Carpooling is encouraged for field trips and in some cases we will provide transportation, you don't need a car to take this course. This is a tentative schedule.

	Monday	Lecture	Laboratory	Assignments
Week 1	25-Aug	Defining wildlife and the social view of wildlife through history.	Safety, Snapshot USA Cameras, locate and demo	
Week 2	1-Sep	Holiday	Holiday	
Week 3	8-Sep	Snapshot USA	Defining the profession	Research Project Sign-up
Week 4	15-Sep	Population Dynamics	Guest Lecture Dr. Tim Baker	
Week 5	22-Sep	Habitat Components	Field Trip: Bat Lab Redwood State Park optional long lab	Quiz 1
Week 6	29-Sep	Animal behavior	Behavior Observations "Squirrel lab"	
Week 7	6-Oct	Research Project Overview	Library Instruction	
Week 8	13-Oct	Habitat Restoration	Field Trip Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge	Project Sources Due
Week 9	20-Oct	Snapshot USA Lab	Human Dimensions	Quiz 2
Week 10	27-Oct	Population dynamics/Succession	Field Trip: Field Trip Aleutian Geese Survey	
Week 11	3-Nov	Predator-Prey Relationships	NSO Survey Protocol	Presentation slides due

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Week 12	10-Nov	Wildlife diseases	Wildlife ID Lab	Presentations
Week 13	17-Nov	Hunting and Trapping	Snapshot USA Data Review	Quiz 3
Week 14	24-Nov	Holiday	Holiday	
Week 15	1-Dec	Principles of Conservation	Tracking Lab	
Week 16	8-Dec	Review	MAMU/Golden Eagle Survey Protocol	
Final Quiz				

Expected Work Load The expected workload for CR Courses is calculated at 3 hours per week for each unit in a standard 16-week course. For the combined lecture and lab, this amounts to nine hours per week. This may be more or less hours depending on your learning style.



Evaluation & Grading Policy

Assignments are listed in Canvas modules and are **subject to change**. Changes will be announced in class and posted in Canvas – due dates in Canvas should be considered the most current. Additional assignment due dates will be announced when the assignments are given. Most assignments will be turned in via canvas. You are responsible for knowing when your work is due.

Late Work: Assignments in canvas has a **due date**- when you are expected to turn it in and a **turn-in date** the last possible date you can submit an assignment. If you cannot turn in an assignment by the due date and want to submit by the turn-in date you must email me before the assignment is due and outline your plan for submitting the assignment by the turn-in date. Otherwise, 10% per day will be deducted from your assignment grade. After using two turn-in date grace periods late assignments will be deducted 10% per day.



Policy: You may be dropped from the class if you miss 3 or more weeks of class participation, discussion, assignments or labs prior to the end of week 10. If you stop participating in class after week 10 you will be graded for participation and may receive an F.



Assignments will be graded typically within one week of submission, depending on instructor workload.

CR Grading Scale: A: 94-100, A-: 90-<94, B+: 87-<90, B: 84-<87, B-: 80-<84, C+: 77-<80, C: 70-<77, D: 60-<70, F: <60



Prerequisites / Co-requisites / Recommended Preparation

Students will be required to have access to adequate computer and internet access and familiarity with basic computer skills. Examples of this include:

- navigate a class in Canvas
- receive, respond and regularly check) messages sent to your CR email account
- receive, respond and regularly check) announcements sent in Canvas
- download and upload files in Canvas assignments
- use a phone or digital camera (or webcam) to upload “selfies” to your online lab notebook
- use a word processor program (such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs)
- use a webcam or a phone to record and upload videos in Canvas
- use Zoom, email and canvas discussion boards to communicate with peers and instructor





Educational Accessibility & Support

College of the Redwoods is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for qualified students who could benefit from additional educational support and services. You may qualify if you have a physical, mental, sensory, or intellectual condition which causes you to struggle academically, including but not limited to:

- Mental health conditions such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, or bipolar disorder
- Common ailments such as arthritis, asthma, diabetes, autoimmune disorders and diseases



- Temporary impairments such as a broken bone, recovery from significant surgery, or a pregnancy-related disability
- Neurodevelopmental disorders such as a learning disability, intellectual disability, autism, acquired brain injury, or ADHD
- Vision, hearing, or mobility conditions

Available services include extended test time, quiet testing environments, academic assistance and tutoring through the [LIGHT Center](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php) , [\(https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/light.php), counseling and advising, alternate formats of course materials (e.g. audio books or E-texts), assistive technology, learning disability assessments, approval for personal attendants, interpreters, priority registration, on-campus transportation, adaptive physical education and living skills courses, and more. If you believe you might benefit from disability- or health-related services and accommodations, please contact [Student Accessibility Support Services \(SASS\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php) , [\(https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php\)](https://www.redwoods.edu/services/sass/index.php).

If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact SASS for a consultation: SASS@redwoods.edu (<mailto:SASS@redwoods.edu>).

SASS office locations and phone numbers

Eureka campus

- Phone: 707-476-4280,
- Locations: Student Services building, first floor SS113

Del Norte campus

- Phone: 707-465-2353
- Location: Main building, near the Library

Klamath-Trinity campus

- 707-476-4280



Academic Integrity

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of academic dishonesty. In cases involving academic integrity, determination of the grade and student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated a lack of academic integrity, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam



and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the 2024-2025 College Catalog and CR Board and Administrative Policies.



AI Use Class Policy

Recent advancements in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have made large language models such as ChatGPT and Google's Bard widely available. We use some of this technology in our analysis in class. However, overuse of these tools in this class can undermine your learning and curtail the development of your critical and creative thinking skills. In addition, AI outputs are often unreliable and frequently subject to bias. For these reasons, the policy of this class is that **AI cannot be used at any point in the completion of class assignments unless otherwise specified**, including discussion posts. Any or all of your assignment submissions and discussion posts may be screened by AI detection software, but the real penalty for AI misuse is that you will miss out on an opportunity to learn. In Forestry and Natural Resources, we so often reference on the ground conditions to ensure environmental protections- so critical thinking is essential!



Disruptive Behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [2025-2026 College Catalog](https://redwoods.elumenapp.com/catalog/2025-2026/home) [↗](https://redwoods.elumenapp.com/catalog/2025-2026/home) and [CR Board and Administrative Policies](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/Public?&id=policies) [↗](https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/redwoods/Board.nsf/Public?&id=policies).





Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

