

**Welcome to WLDF 244
Wildlife Policy and Animal Welfare
Spring 2013
Humboldt State University**

Basic Course Information

Lectures Tuesdays 1700 – 1750 in the Wildlife and Fisheries Building room 258

Instructor Information

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Instructor | Richard N. Brown (Rick) |
| Phone | 826-3320 |
| Email | RNB2@humboldt.edu |
| Office | WFB 152 |
| Office Hours | Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays - 1300-1500 (1-3PM), or by appointment |

Description of the Course

This course provides a general introduction to issues concerning policies and regulations related to animal welfare as general issues that influence the wildlife profession. Wildlife 244 does not have any prerequisites and does not fulfill any lower division GE requirements. However, it is a prerequisite for WLDF 311 and you will be expected to understand the procedures necessary to successfully route future IACUC protocols.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Learn to negotiate the HSU system for providing oversight for animals used in teaching and research as well as the HSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) website. This process will result in an understanding of why we have an IACUC; including the ethics, legal mandates, and research benefits associated with institutional reviews.
- Be able to explain why HSU has an IACUC, describe the required members of an IACUC, and the basic responsibilities of all “animal users” conducting research utilizing live vertebrate animals in the US. Participants will explore the reasoning behind the questions on the HSU IACUC protocol and review common “answers” that facilitate protocol approval as well as common pit falls that have led to past delays of final approval.
- Review aspects of relevant federal law (AWA), regulations of the AWA (Title 9 of CFR), and policies (The Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals) that influence regulation of use of individual animals at institutions, including universities.
- Review the legal authority over methods used for euthanasia. Understand why we need to include euthanasia protocols for research in which we do not anticipate that animals will suffer or that such a protocol would ever be carried out. Know where to find the legal constraints on euthanasia procedures as well as the authority of IACUCs to allow methods that are unconventional according to the guidelines.
- Review guidelines published by professional societies that strive to guide work with wild

animals. Consider the benefits of establishing professional standards for working with live animals.

- Discuss some of the methods describing capture, handling, marking, and, when necessary, euthanizing wild animals. Consider both the benefits and legal limitations concerning authority over "use" of live vertebrate animals for purposes of research and teaching.
- Download the IACUC protocol form from the IACUC website and utilize a study design from a published research paper to create answers on a mock-IACUC protocol. Students will submit a protocol that demonstrates an adequate level of understanding necessary to seek approval.

Text Books and Resources

There are no required texts for WLDF 244.

The HSU IACUC web site (www.humboldt.edu/iacuc) provides helpful links as well as the IACUC protocol forms.

Students should visit the Moodle web site for updates, news, the current syllabus, recorded grades, etc.

Grading and Grading Policy

This is a Credit / No Credit class that I hope you all pass. To do so, each of you will need to earn a minimum of 80 total points and receive passing credit for (1) the Citi-Program Basic IACUC Certificate (20 points; and completion requires 80% correct answers in each of 14 short modules), (2) completion of an IACUC protocol; note that you must earn a minimum of 30 of 40 possible points on the IACUC protocol, and (3) 30 of 40 possible points for participation in the class.

You will be able to track your grade throughout the course using the "Grades" link in the margin at the left of the Moodle course main page. Contact me if you have any questions about your grades; prompt contact will lead to faster and easier resolution of grading issues, so please contact me quickly when questions arise.

Participation is important in any class. Therefore, please participate often to support the learning community (and, if necessary, to earn the minimum points necessary to pass the class).

| Point Gathering Opportunities | Points Possible |
|--|--|
| CITI –Program Basic IACUC Certificate | 20 (=20% required) |
| IACUC protocol | 40 (=75%, >30 points required to pass) |
| Participation in Class | 40 (=75%; >30 points required to pass) |
| (participation with clickers and discussion) | (30 possible points) |
| (peer review of protocols) | (10 possible points) |
| Total Points Possible | 100 (=100%) |

The CITI-Program Basic IACUC Course for Investigators, Staff and Students

will provide online learning modules to familiarize you the laws, policies and basic procedures of the federal oversight of animal care and use programs in the United States. The modification of this program for Humboldt State should be ready in about another week, and I'll post specific instructions for logging on and earning your certificates at that time. As with anything that you ever turn in, make sure that you save a copy of your certificate as well as turn in a copy to me.

More to be announced.

IACUC Protocol

1. IACUC Protocol forms will be submitted whenever you are involved in a research project involving live-vertebrate animals at HSU, so this is an important process for you to understand and master.
2. You should download the protocol form linked to the IACUC website (www.humboldt.edu/iacuc).
3. Re-open the protocol form using the software on your computer. Do not answer the questions online (and then print the document from the online version) because the formatting may be altered.
4. You should find a journal article (Journal of Wildlife Management, Journal of Mammalogy, Conservation Biology, etc., or use Google Scholar to help you find a scientific paper) that describes a peer-reviewed research project conducted with **live vertebrate wildlife**. The paper can report research on any topic involving your choice of vertebrate taxa (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds or mammals), but **the research described must be invasive enough to require a protocol (such as capture, sampling, attachment of radio transmitters, collection of blood samples, euthanasia, etc.)**. Note that purely observational studies will not be an acceptable choice for this project, and that everyone will need to include a proposed method for euthanasia. If you are not sure if your paper is invasive enough, please just bring it to class or drop by my office hours to ask.
5. Once you find the paper, you should fill out the IACUC protocol form **as if you were going to conduct the same work in the near future**; by law, IACUC protocols can never be approved for past work so you can not ask for permission to conduct work done previously.
6. Please clearly indicate your name on the routing slip as the person to contact, and include your name in your answer to number 3 (note that I will be listed on the routing slip as the responsible faculty member). Keep a paper copy of the paper you are using and turn it in with your final IACUC protocol at the end of the class. Protocols that do not merit a score of at least points will be returned with a score of zero points.

Post questions to the forums as you are preparing your protocol; this is a process to be mastered and not a test per se. Ask other students, come see me, or re-read these instructions whenever you have problems answering questions.

Please note that students should plan to spend a minimum of two to four hours finding and reading their journal articles and at least another two or three hours preparing the first draft of their IACUC protocol. The more carefully you prepare your protocol, the less time you'll have to spend revising it later.

Note that an assignment traded via email or passed physically without my knowledge will be considered the same a paper that is NOT turned in. If you have problems submitting your assignments, contact me or the Humboldt State Help Desk (help@humboldt.edu or 707-826-

4357) immediately by phone or email to resolve the problem. Please don't wait until the protocol is due to ask questions as I may be busy elsewhere and not be able to answer your question in time.

Clickers (response cards) and Lecture "Quiz" Points will provide you an opportunity to answer questions related to the course material. You should purchase a TurningPoint Response Card RF-LCD (or use your own previously purchased clicker), and you will need to confirm that I have the number to associate your clicker with your name (please register your clicker through the WLDF 244 Moodle web site. To earn points on the daily questions, you will need to bring your clicker (with charged batteries) to class, pay attention during class, and/or consult other material as indicated during the semester. You will need to attend as often as possible to earn enough total points to pass the class. Note that some of the questions will be opinion based and some will have correct and incorrect answers. Opinion questions will earn points no matter how you respond.

I realize that everyone forgets things now and then. Therefore, I will allow one single day for you to forget your clicker (or have dead batteries...). If this happens, please write your name, date, and class in the upper right hand corner of a full sheet of binder paper, and then answer each question as it is offered in class. I will give ½ credit for that day, but it will be better than not coming.

You can plan on there being four or five questions to earn you a maximum of three points for each day of class (and there are 11 days for you to earn a maximum of 30 clicker points).

Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements

1. You will need access to a modern computer and the Internet. For specific questions about the technical suitability of your home computer or laptop, contact the HSU Help Desk (707-826-4357 or help@humboldt.edu). If you do not have a computer at home or work but do spend time on campus, you can use any of the computer labs during open hours.
2. If you plan to connect to the Internet from home, you will need Internet access. High speed Internet access with a cable modem or DSL is recommended. For either connection method, you will need an Internet Service Provider (ISP).
3. You also will need word processing software (e.g., Microsoft Word). If you need a word processor, contact the HSU Bookstore for reduced pricing on a variety of software products. An acceptable alternative is [OpenOffice's Writer program](#) available at no cost. [Review documentation](#) on using this MS Word substitute. However, you must confirm that the formatting of the protocol is not altered, and you will be held responsible for formatting.
4. You will also need a clicker (TurningTechnologies Response Card RF – LCD, or similar devise).

Attitudes & Technical Skills Required

You will find that the following attitude will significantly contribute to your success in this (as well as other) class:

- A positive attitude towards technology and learning
- An open mind and a willingness to think from your perception of other people's values
- Willingness to share your experiences with others
- Strong analytical and critical thinking skills for when you "get stuck"

- Resourcefulness - don't be afraid to click on links, to explore, or ask questions
- Time management; start early, complete tasks early, and minimize risks and stress

It will also help if you have the following basic technical skills:

- Competency with file management (for example, linking a folder to your desktop, moving files from one location to another, finding a saved file)
- Internet navigation skills
- Download plug-ins or software from the Internet, if necessary; Adobe Reader may be necessary to read .pdf files.
- Update your Internet browser if it becomes an issue
- Send and receive professional emails using correct spellings and grammar
- Use of a word processor such as MS Word to create and save documents
- Toggle between two open software applications on your computer
- Copy text from a word processing program and paste them into another program

Clicker Registration (set your clicker to Channel 41)

You will need to purchase a “clicker” for use in lectures. The bookstore sells the “TurningTechnologies ResponseCard RF-LCD. This “clicker” will allow you to answer questions that I’ll ask using PowerPoint slides, and your answers will be recorded. Other response cards should also work fine.

Please register your “clicker” ID ASAP. To do so, open the WLDF 244 Moodle website.

1. When you sign in to Moodle, click on WLDF 244 and you’ll see a reminder to register your clicker (unless you’ve already done so).
2. Click OK, then click Manage my Device IDs on the right.
3. Enter the Device ID found on the back of your ResponseCard and select “all courses.”
4. Remove plastic tab on the new clicker and engage the battery.
5. Review your Device ID number in Manage my Device IDs once you have entered it into Moodle and make sure it is entered correctly. As always, spelling counts.
6. Make sure you are on the proper channel (Ch. 41); to set it to channel 41, press “channel,” then press 4, then 1, and finally press “channel” a second time.

Why does the ResponseCard classroom clicker flash different colors?

- Green: Confirmation that the RF Receiver has received a response from the ResponseCard.
- Orange: The ResponseCard is sending a signal and waiting for confirmation from the RF Receiver.
- Red: Response not received by the RF Receiver.
- Green and Red: In Channel Changing mode (press channel again to stop)

Academic Honesty

Students are responsible for knowing [policy regarding academic honesty](#); in general, you will be considered to be honest until you prove otherwise. However, dishonesty is not acceptable in science and will not be tolerated in the classroom. In general, you should assume that all written work should be completed independently unless specifically stated otherwise. This is usually pretty straight forward, common, sense, but please ask me if you have any doubts about

whether assignments are meant to be completed individually or in groups; I don't mind students getting input on IACUC protocols from other students or from me. However, it would be dishonest if a student writes a protocol for another student, if a student uses a protocol from a previous class, if two students purposely use the same research paper, etc. Of course, the inappropriate use of clickers is a violation of the Humboldt State University Student Code of Conduct and punishable through a variety of sanctions, including failure from the class and expulsion.

Attendance & Disruptive Behavior

Students are responsible for knowing [policy regarding attendance and disruptive behavior](#). I sincerely believe that you all will benefit, both individually and as groups, if everyone tries to maximize their participation. This course will include time for discussion and your input will be greatly appreciated. In general, everyone will be treated as mature citizens and they will be expected to behave appropriately; disruptive behavior simply will not be tolerated. In order to optimize the learning environment for all of us, all students will be required to treat each other respectfully and to avoid making derogatory comments or any comments that might be interpreted as discriminating against any individual (for any reason, including gender, age, race, religion, sexual orientation, or anyone's interpretation of another's potential intelligence).

Student Disability Accommodation

Persons who wish to request disability-related accommodations should contact the [Student Disability Resource Center](#) in the Lower Library, 826-4678 (voice) or 826-5392 (TDD). Some accommodations may take up to several weeks to arrange. Please note that I will always attempt to support students with any issues requiring extra time or energy, but that I must be knowledgeable to provide support. I encourage any of you who suffer from test anxiety, or any of the myriad of potential learning problems, to contact the SDRC ASAP, and to remind me when and where you will need assistance from me prior to each assignment due date.

Add/Drop Policy

Students are responsible for knowing the University policy, procedures, and schedule for dropping or adding classes. [More information on adding and dropping courses](#).

Emergency Evacuation Plan

Please review the evacuation plan for the classroom (posted on the orange signs next to the classroom doors); in case of emergency, everyone should move quietly but quickly out of the building to the Events Area to the west of Wildlife Lane. Students can also review http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:qeFzk_24QscJ:www.humboldt.edu/emergencymgmtprogram/evacuation_procedures.php+Emergency+evacuation+plan+site:humboldt.edu&cd=2&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us&client=firefox-a for information on campus Emergency Procedures. During an emergency, information concerning campus conditions will likely be posted on the HSU homepage, but also can be found at: **826-INFO** or at <http://www.humboldt.edu/emergencymgmtprogram/>.

Need Help?

If you have questions about the course, such as concepts covered in the course, your assignments, grading, policies, etc. PLEASE ASK (in class, by phone, during office hours or appointment, by email (Richard.Brown@humboldt.edu) or in the halls... Please, just ask.

Tentative Schedule for WLDF 244 (Check Moodle + Emails)

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Resources on Moodle</i> |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| Tuesday, 22 January | Introduction to WLDF 244 | |
| Tuesday, 29 January | Introduction to environmental ethics | Botzler 1998 |
| Tuesday, 5 February | Environmental and research ethics | Manfredo et al. 2003 |
| Tuesday, 12 February | Compete on-line training with the CITI - Program | Information in the syllabus and on Moodle |
| Tuesday, 19 February | Compete on-line training with the CITI - Program | Information in the syllabus and on Moodle |
| Tuesday, 26 February | Compete on-line training with the CITI - Program | Information in the syllabus and on Moodle |
| Tuesday, 5 March | History of the AWA and introduction to the HSU IACUC – CITI Program Certificates Due at Start (keep a copy for yourself) | HSU IACUC website |
| Tuesday, 12 March | Completing the HSU IACUC protocol | HSU IACUC FAQs |
| 18 to 22 March | Spring Break | |
| Tuesday, 26 March | Completing the HSU IACUC protocol; pain, distress and euthanasia – | Euthanasia guidelines |
| Tuesday, 2 April | Wildlife and the IACUC 1st draft of IACUC protocol due - bring paper copy for peer review; turn in electronic copy on Moodle | Williams 1999 |
| Tuesday, 9 April | Various perspectives on wildlife issues | none |
| Tuesday, 16 April | Problems encountered in writing and reviewing protocols – Due - a copy of your review of your classmate's proposal ; turn in electronic copy on Moodle | Come to class with 3 questions or problems |
| Tuesday, 23 April | Various perspectives on wildlife issues | none |
| Tuesday, 30 April | Wildlife and feral animals in the Channel Islands - Final IACUC protocol due | Roemer et al. 2003 Lodge and Shrader-Frechette 2003 |
| Tuesday, 7 May | Wrap-up discussion of current trends & evaluations - please attend class | |

