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Course prerequisites
BISC 101 and 102 courses.

Outline of topics

The course will consist of a review of vertebrate taxonomy. The evolution and diversity of vertebrates will be examined. The principle adaptations and organ systems of vertebrates will be studied through comparative anatomy and by relating form and function. Various groups will be considered to illustrate how vertebrates have adapted to cope with different environments.

Instructional format each week

Three 50 minute lectures in which information and concepts will be presented. A four hour lab during which students will have an opportunity to study form and function and comparative anatomy with dissection and other methods.

Textbooks

Kardong, K.V. Vertebrates: Comparative Anatomy, Function, Evolution

Wischnitzer, S. Atlas and dissection guide for comparative anatomy. 5th

Evaluation
1 lecture midterms (20%)
1 lab midterm and 1 lab final (20% each)
1 lecture final (40%)
The lecture exams will consist of both short (one or two sentences) and long (one or more paragraphs) answer questions. The lab exams involve short answer questions related directly to laboratory exercises.