Syllabus
Field Herpetology: Identification of Wisconsin Amphibians and Reptiles
Bio Sci 562, Section 101, Summer 2018

Course dates. This is a blended course. The online session runs May 21 - June 22. There is a required weekend field session at the UWM Field Station from Fri. June 1 - Sat. June 2. Sunday, June 3, is optional.

Hours: Fri. 6/1 9:00am-6:00pm, Sat. 6/2 8:00am-3:00pm, Sun. 6/3 8:00am-12:00pm

Instructors. Online portion: Gretchen Meyer, UWM Field Station. gmeyer@uwm.edu, 262-675-6844. Field session: Josh Kapfer, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, kapferj@uww.edu

Course objectives. This course will give students a sound background in identifying Wisconsin's amphibians and reptiles in both field and laboratory settings. Students will also receive information on the habitat, ecology, conservation, and status of these species within the state. Common techniques for field research in herpetology will be demonstrated, including handling, capturing and surveying techniques. The course can be completed Friday-Saturday, but students will have the option of returning on Sunday for further field surveys.

Required books. You should purchase the following three DNR guides to amphibians and reptiles of Wisconsin:

Christoffel, R, Hay R. & Ramirez L. Snakes of Wisconsin. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Pub ER-100 00

A set of all 3 is $10.00. They can be ordered online from http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/herpbooks.html. Please order the books in time to bring them to the field session, starting on June 1.

Course online access. This class is taught partially online, so you must have access to a computer with internet access. You must login in to D2L (http://d2l.uwm.edu) to access
course materials. Contact the help desk (help@uwm.edu or 414-229-4040) for help with D2L.

**Grading.** Your grade in the class will be based on the following components. The weekend field session is required and you must attend both days of the field session to receive a grade in this course.

- **Quiz:** One short answer quiz based on the readings posted on D2L. 10 points
- **Field notebook (completed during the weekend field session).** 40 points
- **Species report.** 40 points
- **Participation.** 10 points

**Discussions.** The discussion area on D2L allows you to share information with each other. There are three discussions set up for this class. "Introduce yourself" is required. This will help you get to know a little bit about each of your classmates before you meet in the weekend field session. "Carpooling" is for your convenience, so that those of you who want to can share rides to and from the Field Station during the weekend field session. "General help" is for any general questions about the class.

**Meals and housing for field weekend.** Free housing is available at the Field Station if desired and meals are available for purchase. If you don't want to drive back and forth each day, you can use a bunkbed in a shared room at our farmhouse. You will need to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and towels. Meals are available for purchase (optional). You can sign up for lunch on Friday and Saturday ($22.00), dinner Friday ($12.00), or breakfast on Saturday ($3.00). No meals are provided for Saturday evening or Sunday. Please contact Cindy Boettcher at the Field Station (cboetchr@uwm.edu, 262-675-6844) for more information, or to sign up for meals or housing.

**Weekly calendar of activities and assignments**

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<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due date and time</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 21 - May 27</td>
<td>Complete the readings</td>
<td>Introduce yourself</td>
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<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28 - June 3</td>
<td>Read the syllabus for the field session</td>
<td>Quiz on the readings</td>
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<td>Attend the field session</td>
<td>Field notebook</td>
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<td><strong>Final weeks</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6 - June 24</td>
<td>Write up species report</td>
<td>Species report</td>
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