

Biology of Mammals
FW 317

Credit hours: 3

Term offered: Winter

Instructor: Staff

Course content: This is a lecture course that surveys the taxonomy, diversity and distribution of the mammals of the world. The primary unifying theme of the course will be the evolution of mammals from their beginnings during the age of reptiles and through their many iterations leading to the extant mammals of today. The course will explore those adaptations that make mammals unique, and particularly those adaptations that have made them so successful. The role of some mammals as ecological dominants, and thus their importance to ecosystem functioning will be explored.

Prerequisites: One year of introductory biology and junior standing.

Text: Mammalogy: Adaptation, Diversity and Ecology. Feldhamer et. al.

Term papers: None

Testing: One mid-term and a final.

Students for whom the course is intended: Wildlife majors and any other students that have an interest in mammals, or who would benefit by having knowledge of mammals.