North American Wildlife

**2015-2016**

**MR. SHAUT**

**Course Objectives:** This course is designed to give the student a general overview of the great diversity of animal life that exists on the North American continent. We will discuss basic ecology and biology concepts and how they apply to the various groups of organisms in North America. We will also discuss the impact of humans on the environment, both positive and negative.

**Textbook:** Fish and Wildlife: Principles of Ecology and Zoology- 2nd Edition: Burton

**Requirements:** All students are required to keep a notebook of the content delivered in class. A three-ring binder is essential for organizing the notes, handouts, and corrected tests and quizzes.

**Assignments:** Written homework and projects must be turned in on time. Homework is due the day after being assigned and **cannot** be made up unless the student has a legal excuse for the absence. If a test or quiz is missed, it is the student’s responsibility to make them up within three days of returning or a grade of zero will be earned for that assignment. Tests and quizzes will be made up by appointment with the instructor.

**Grading:** Averages will be based on a culmination of homework, quizzes, tests, and projects.

**Expectations:** Personal integrity, responsibility, willingness to learn, and respect for self, property, and others.

**EVERY DAY:**

* **Be prepared to learn** with your required materials, a writing utensil, and a good attitude.
* **Be courteous** to others, their property, and the school property.
* **Be free of distractions** including electronic devices.

I have high expectations of all of my students, both academically and behaviorally. I ask for my students’ best effort in both of these areas. I expect that my students behave as mature young adults; that they are courteous to me and to each other. This not only serves to promote an environment that is conducive to learning, but also ensures a safe classroom. I do not tolerate behavior that compromises the safety or the dignity of the individuals in my charge.

**Course Overview:**

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| Unit | Topics | Approximate Time Frame |
| Intro to Ecology/Zoology | * Predator/Prey relationships
* Food webs/energy transfer
* Carrying Capacity
 | 2 weeks |
| Mammals | * Gnawing mammals
* Hoofed mammals
* Predatory mammals
* Marine mammals
* Unusual mammals
 | 4 weeks |
| Birds | * Waterfowl
* Game birds
* Birds of prey
* Songbirds
 | 3 weeks |
| Fish | * Freshwater
* Saltwater
* Anadromous/diadromous
 | 3 weeks |
| Reptiles and Amphibians | * Lizards and snakes
* Turtles and salamanders
* Toads and frogs
 | 2 weeks |
| Human Impact | * Recreation
* Agriculture
* Commerce
* Consumerism
 | 2 weeks |
| Conservation and Management | * Clean water, air and soil
* Preserving habitat
* Government role
* Special interest role
* Individual role
 | 2 weeks |

**CONTACT INFO:** If you wish to contact me any time regarding your student’s progress, please call me at WHS; (607) 936-3794 or e-mail at the address below. I will always be available before and after school to both students and parents in room 814. I look forward to working with you.

JW Shaut jshaut@cppmail.com

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