Welcome to Ecology!
BIOL 2140
MoTuWeTh 10:00 to 11:50am
Terrill Hall 120
May 20th - June 21st, 2024
with
Dr. Jaime Baxter-Slye (she/her)
slye@unt.edu
ENV 332

Bald Eagle
(Accipitridae: *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

Slye’s office hours: Th 2:30 – 4:00 PM
or for appointment click here
What are the objectives of BIOL 2140?

Ecological and evolutionary approach to understanding distribution, abundance, dispersion and form-function diversity of organisms.

Provides a strong foundational knowledge about key ecological concepts and explore subdisciplines within the field.

The focus will be on organisms, their physiological and life history adaptations, populations, communities and ecosystems.

Canada Geese
(Anatidae: Branta canadensis)
How to Succeed!

- Come to class
- Take good notes
- Participate in activities
- Read the book
- Be mindful and present
- Office appointments
- Communicate

Weekly ‘Opportunity’ questions are an array of formats and will thoroughly cover what we talk about in lecture.
The Basics

- BIOL 2140 prerequisites include 1710/1720/1730/1740/1760 - The two freshman semesters of Biology.

- This course is in-person for the duration of the semester.

- Materials are provided in CANVAS in modules for each week. In addition, students should consider buying the textbook that lectures are based from: Ecology: The Economy of Nature by R. Ricklefs and R. Relyea, 9th edition. W.H. Freeman and Company

- Here at UNT we have a Student Help Desk that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues.

**UNT IT Help Desk**

**Email:** helpdesk@unt.edu

**Live Chat:** https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk/chatsupport

**Phone:** 940-565-2324

**In Person:** Sage Hall, Room 330

**Hours and Availability:** Visit https://it.unt.edu/helpdesk for up-to-date hours and availability

For additional support, visit [Canvas Technical Help](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic subject to change</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Points to Obtain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week One</strong>&lt;br&gt;May 20 - 23rd</td>
<td>Introduction to Course&lt;br&gt;Ecological Systems Hierarchy&lt;br&gt;Physical and Biological Principles&lt;br&gt;Roles of Organisms&lt;br&gt;Scientific Approaches to Ecology&lt;br&gt;Climate Fundamentals/Climate Change&lt;br&gt;Basics of Aquatic Biomes&lt;br&gt;Adaptations to Terrestrial and Aquatic Biomes&lt;br&gt;Adaptations to Variable Environments</td>
<td>Syllabus&lt;br&gt;Ch. 1.1&lt;br&gt;Ch. 1.2&lt;br&gt;Ch. 1.3&lt;br&gt;Ch. 1.4&lt;br&gt;Ch. 2.1-2.5&lt;br&gt;Ch. 2.7&lt;br&gt;Ch. 3 and 4&lt;br&gt;Ch. beginning of 5</td>
<td>20 points and 4% of grade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week Two</strong>&lt;br&gt;May 28th - 30th no class on 5/27 for Memorial Day</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday Opportunity #1 Ch. 1- first part of 5</strong>&lt;br&gt;Last of Ch. 5, and Ch. 7 Life Histories&lt;br&gt;Reproductive Strategies</td>
<td>Ch. 5 &amp; 7&lt;br&gt;Ch. beginning of 6</td>
<td>100 points and 20% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week Three</strong>&lt;br&gt;June 3rd - 6th</td>
<td><strong>Monday Opportunity #2 End of Ch. 5, 7, and first of 8</strong>&lt;br&gt;Last of Ch. 8; Social Behaviors&lt;br&gt;Population Distributions;</td>
<td>Ch. 8 &amp; 9&lt;br&gt;Ch. 10</td>
<td>100 points and 20% of grade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week Four</strong>&lt;br&gt;June 10th - 13th</td>
<td><strong>Monday Opportunity #3 Ch. 10, 11.1, 11.2, 12</strong>&lt;br&gt;Competition&lt;br&gt;Community Structure&lt;br&gt;Movement of Energy in Ecosystems</td>
<td>Ch. 15&lt;br&gt;Ch. 17&lt;br&gt;Ch. 19</td>
<td>100 points and 20% of grade</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week Five</strong>&lt;br&gt;June 17th - 21st no class on 6/19 for Juneteenth</td>
<td>Movement of Elements, Landscape Ecology and Biodiversity&lt;br&gt;Conservation of Biodiversity&lt;br&gt;Catch up and Review</td>
<td>Ch. 20 and 21&lt;br&gt;Ch. 22</td>
<td>20 points and 4% of grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday June 23</strong></td>
<td><strong>Final Exam Ch. 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22</strong>&lt;br&gt;Time: 10:00 am - 11:50 am</td>
<td>100 points and 20% of grade</td>
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Total possible points is 100, with additional 20 extra credit points that may be achieved.
To calculate grade: Sum of all points/500*100  Example 447/500*100 = 89.400 = B
How can I receive extra credit?

20 points max available; choose either option 1 or 2

Option 1: Parking Lot Preserve or Pollinative Prairie workdays. Dates TBD. Each workday attended with a written summary receives 5 pts. Write a summary of each workday and turn in by the Final Exam date of June 21st. The summary(ies) will be generated via the template provided in CANVAS. Attendance will be recorded at the workday, and only students present at the workday may turn in extra credit assignment.


Option 2: Research topic of your choice. For 20 possible points. Complete a report of a research topic related to ecology. Template provided on CANVAS.

Report due June 21st by midnight, no exceptions.

Where is the Parking Lot Preserve?
Located in Lot 11 on west side of the ENV in the parking lot.

Where is the Pollinative Prairie?
1704 N Elm St. Proceed thru gate, turn right, follow road to Lot 2 for parking. Prairie is located in east field by pond.
Attendance Policy

- We will use ‘active participation’ in lieu of attendance.

- Participation = actively taking notes, providing discussion-based responses, turning in participation questions

- In Ecology, there are 100 points possible for participation. Students must be in attendance in lecture to receive participation instructions/topic. Students will record answers on a sheet of paper and turn in at the end of class. No late participation will be taken.

- If a University excused absence occurs, students should immediately make arrangements with me before the end of the week to make up participation points.

- Students must be present for opportunities (exams). Exams are to be taken when scheduled. Students will not be allowed to take any exam on a date or time other than scheduled unless you have a verifiable medical excuse or official UNT activity. The time and place for make-up exams will be determined by the instructor.
Our Ethics

As members of the **UNT Community**, we have all made a commitment to be part of an institution that respects and values the identities of the students and employees with whom we interact.

**UNT does not tolerate identity-based discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.**

In addition, sometimes we may not agree on certain issues. However, we must refrain from using insulting, degrading, disrespectful, or offensive terms and language when discussing topics or ideas either in-person, in written assignments, or in virtual settings. Failure to do so may result in a point deduction due to lack of effective participation.

Mississippi Kite
(Accipitridae: *Ictinia mississippiensis*)
Rules of Engagement

- While the freedom to express yourself is a fundamental human right, any communication that utilizes cruel and derogatory language on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law will not be tolerated.

- Treat your instructor and classmates with respect in any communication online or face-to-face, even when their opinion differs from your own.

- Ask for and use the correct name and pronouns for your instructor and classmates.

- Speak from personal experiences. Use “I” statements to share thoughts and feelings. Try not to speak on behalf of groups or other individual’s experiences.

- Use your critical thinking skills to challenge other people’s ideas, instead of attacking individuals.

- Avoid using all caps while communicating digitally. This may be interpreted as “YELLING!”

- Be cautious when using humor or sarcasm in emails or discussion posts as tone can be difficult to interpret digitally.

- Proofread and fact-check your sources.

- Keep in mind that online posts can be permanent, so think first before you type.

- See these Engagement Guidelines (https://clear.unt.edu/online-communication-tips) for more information.
Scholastic Dishonesty

We will follow the academic standards found in the UNT Academic Integrity Policy (PDF).

Grades are based on mastery of the content. As a rule, I do not grade on a “curve” because that is a comparison of your outcomes to others.

What is considered cheating and what are the consequences?
Below is a list of activities that are considered cheating. This list may not include all offenses.

Cheating results in a zero for the assignment/exam and possible notification to the Dean’s office.

Any student that has written information on their body, clothing, or personal items that can be seen while taking an exam
Looking at another student’s scantron or exam
Allowing another student to look at your scantron or exam
Wearing earbuds that plays information during an exam
Providing answers to questions while speaking to the professor during the exam so that others can hear
Wearing or having a watch or other electronic device displaying information while taking an exam

Items that are not allowed during an exam:
Baseball caps or hats
Earbuds or Earphones
Electronic devices, including electronic watches
Paper other than what is provided by the professor
All personal items must be stored under the desk and out of view (for instance, in a backpack)
How can discuss my grades with my TA?

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (1974), does not permit faculty or staff to report grades by phone or email. In addition, per University policy, grades cannot be posted publicly. Do not request any information from your TA about grades unless it is virtually or in-person.

You can:
- go to office hours
- make an appointment in-person or virtual
- request to speak to me before or after class

Black-chinned Hummingbird
(Trochilidae: Archilochus alexandri)
ODA Information

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities.

Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course.

You may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation.

Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.

For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website at https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.
UNT Policies

Academic Integrity Policy
Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University. [Insert specific sanction or academic penalty for specific academic integrity violation.]

ADA Policy
UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one’s specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website (https://disability.unt.edu/).

Prohibition of Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation (Policy 16.004)
The University of North Texas (UNT) prohibits discrimination and harassment because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal or state law in its application and admission processes; educational programs and activities; employment policies, procedures, and processes; and university facilities. The University takes active measures to prevent such conduct and investigates and takes remedial action when appropriate.

Emergency Notification & Procedures
UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Canvas for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Retention of Student Records
Student records pertaining to this course are maintained in a secure location by the instructor of record. All records such as exams, answer sheets (with keys), and written papers submitted during the duration of the course are kept for at least one calendar year after course completion. Course work completed via the Canvas online system, including grading information and comments, is also stored in a safe electronic environment for one year. Students have the right to view their individual record; however, information about student’s records will not be divulged to other individuals without proper written consent. Students are encouraged to review the Public Information Policy and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws and the University’s policy. See UNT Policy 10.10, Records Management and Retention for additional information.
UNT Policy

Acceptable Student Behavior
Student behavior that interferes with an instructor’s ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student’s conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The University’s expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. Visit UNT’s Code of Student Conduct (https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/conduct) to learn more.

Access to Information - Eagle Connect
Students’ access point for business and academic services at UNT is located at: my.unt.edu. All official communication from the University will be delivered to a student’s Eagle Connect account. For more information, please visit the website that explains Eagle Connect and how to forward e-mail Eagle Connect (https://it.unt.edu/eagleconnect).

Student Evaluation Administration Dates
Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website (http://spot.unt.edu/) or email spot@unt.edu.

Survivor Advocacy
UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-5652648.
Additional UNT Services

Academic Support & Student Services

Student Support Services

Mental Health

UNT provides mental health resources to students to help ensure there are numerous outlets to turn to that wholeheartedly care for and are there for students in need, regardless of the nature of an issue or its severity. Listed below are several resources on campus that can support your academic success and mental well-being:

- Student Health and Wellness Center (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/student-health-and-wellness-center)
- Counseling and Testing Services (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services)
- UNT Care Team (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/care)
- Individual Counseling (https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/counseling-and-testing-services/services/individual-counseling)

Chosen Names

A chosen name is a name that a person goes by that may or may not match their legal name. If you have a chosen name that is different from your legal name and would like that to be used in class, please let the instructor know. Below is a list of resources for updating your chosen name at UNT.

- UNT Records
- UNT ID Card
- UNT Email Address
- Legal Name

*UNT euIDs cannot be changed at this time. The collaborating offices are working on a process to make this option accessible to UNT community members.*
Additional UNT Resources

Pronouns

- Pronouns (she/her, they/them, he/him, etc.) are a public way for people to address you, much like your name, and can be shared with a name when making an introduction, both virtually and in-person. Just as we ask and don’t assume someone’s name, we should also ask and not assume someone’s pronouns.

- You can add your pronouns to your Canvas account so that they follow your name when posting to discussion boards, submitting assignments, etc.

- Below is a list of additional resources regarding pronouns and their usage:
  - What are pronouns and why are they important?
  - How do I use pronouns?
  - How do I share my pronouns?
  - How do I ask for another person’s pronouns?
  - How do I correct myself or others when the wrong pronoun is used?
iNaturalist
UNT All Biodiversity
UNT Pollinative Prairie
UNT Trees
UNT Birds
LLELA Biodiversity
### University of North Texas Ecology and SER

**Overview**

- **Observations**: 78,805
- **Species**: 5,086
- **Identifiers**: 3,664
- **Observers**: 372

### Leaderboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Observations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2024 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
<td>13,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2023 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
<td>11,711</td>
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<td>Spring 2021 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
<td>11,454</td>
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<td>Fall 2023 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
<td>9,543</td>
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<td>Fall 2022 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
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<td>Fall 2020 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
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<td>Spring 2022 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall 2021 University of North Texas Ecology Laboratory (BIOL2141) and SER</td>
<td>6,731</td>
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</tbody>
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[Click here to view all semesters](#)
We use iNaturalist to document flora and fauna.

1. Download phone app (available on desktop, too).
2. Create a professional handle.
3. Make sure your time, date, and location settings are accurate on your phone.
4. Take an overview picture of an organism, and add more pics to show all the parts.
5. Click ‘what do you see’.
6. If you see a ‘we are pretty sure’, select that taxa.
7. If you don’t see a ‘we are pretty sure’, type in one of the following:
   a. plant
   b. fungi
   c. lichen
   d. insect
   e. spider
   f. bird
   g. mammal
   h. snake
   i. ray-finned fish
   j. turtle
   k. amphibia
   l. earthworm
8. Upload
9. Check back for corrections