



Coyote
(Carnivora: Canidae: *Canis latrans*)

Welcome to Ecology BIOL 2140!

ENV 110

Meets every MTWTh 10:00 to 11:50am

May 18th - June 19th, 2025

Dr. Jaime Baxter-Slye
jaime.slye@unt.edu
ENV 332

Slye's office hours:
for [appointment click here](#)



University of North Texas

Ecology BIOL 2140

2026 Summer Syllabus

What are the objectives of BIOL 2140?

- offer an ecological and evolutionary approach to understanding distribution, abundance, dispersion and form-function diversity of organisms
- provide a strong foundational knowledge about key ecological concepts and explore subdisciplines within the field
- focus on organisms, their physiological and life-history adaptations, populations, communities and ecosystems



Male American Kestrel
(Aves: Falconidae: *Falco sparverius*)



Stagmomantis sp.
(Insecta: Mantidae)

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. Relyea, 10th edition.
- 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) (<https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10554-4212710328>)

Summer 2026 Ecology (BIOL2140) Schedule. Any changes will be announced in CANVAS.

Date	Topic	Reading	Points to Obtain
Week One May 18 - 21	Introduction to Course	Syllabus	
	Ecological Systems Hierarchy	Ch. 1.1	
	Physical and Biological Principles	Ch. 1.2	
	Roles of Organisms	Ch. 1.3	
	Scientific Approaches to Ecology	Ch. 1.4	20 points participation, 4% of grade
	Climate Fundamentals/Climate Change	Ch. 2.1-2.5	
	Basics of Aquatic Biomes	Ch. 2.7	
	Adaptations to Aquatic Biomes	Ch. 3	
	Adaptations to Terrestrial Biomes	Ch. 4 up to slide 15	
	Tuesday Opportunity #1 Ch. 1- Ch 4 up to slide 15		100 points and 20% of grade
Week Two May 25 - 28 no class on 5/25 for Memorial Day	End of Ch. 4 from slide 16 onward	Ch. 4 past slide 15	
	Ch. 5 Adaptations to Variable Environments	Ch. 5	20 points participation, 4% of grade
	Ch. 7 Life Histories	Ch. 7	
	Reproductive Strategies	Ch. beginning of 8	
	Monday Opportunity #2 End of Ch. 5, 7, and first of 8		100 points and 20% of grade
Week Three June 1-4	Last of Ch. 8; Social Behaviors	Ch. 8 & 9	
	Population Distributions	Ch. 10	20 points participation, 4% of grade
	Population Growth & Population Dynamics	Ch. 11.1	
	Monday Opportunity #3 Ch. 10, 11.1		100 points and 20% of grade
Week Four June 8 - 11	Population Growth & Population Dynamics	Ch. 11.2, 12	
	Competition	Ch. 15	
	Community Structure	Ch. 17	20 points participation, 4% of grade
	Movement of Energy in Ecosystems	Ch. 19	
Week Five June 15 - 18	Movement of Elements, Landscape Ecology and Biodiversity	Ch. 20 and 21	
	Conservation of Biodiversity	Ch. 22	20 points participation, 4% of grade
	Catch up and Review		
Th June 18	All extra credit reports due		Up to 20pts max available.
Th June 18	Final Exam Ch. 11.2, 12, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22	Time: 10:00 am - 11:50 am	100 points and 20% of grade

**Total possible points is 500, 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**

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	Climate Fundamentals/Climate Change	Ch. 2.1-2.5	
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How can I receive extra credit?

20 points max available; choose *either* option 1 or 2
Due June 18th at midnight, no exceptions

Option 1: Learn how to garden with native plants.

- Dates and locations TBD and will be announced via CANVAS
- Each workday attended with a written summary receives 5 pts.
 - summary(ies) should be generated via the template provided in CANVAS

What should I wear? Closed-toed shoes, pants, long-sleeve shirt, hat, sun protection. Bring water.

Option 2: Research topic of your choice.

- Complete a report of a research topic related to ecology.
- Template provided on CANVAS



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. 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.



Male White-tailed Deer
(Artiodactyla: Cervidae: *Odocoileus virginianus*)

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)



Feral Pigeon

(Columbidae: *Columba livia* var. *domesticus*)

How can discuss my grades?

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 professor 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 your professor before or after class



Giant Prairie Robber Fly
(Insecta: Diptera: Asilidae: *Microstylum morosum*)

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.



Golden-eye Lichen
(Fungi: Teloschistaceae:
Teloschistes chrysophthalmus)

UNT Policy

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

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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) (<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) (<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/) (<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.



About

Members 12

This project captures the observations made by University of North Texas undergraduate Ecology Laboratory students (BIOL2141) and members of the UNT student chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration.

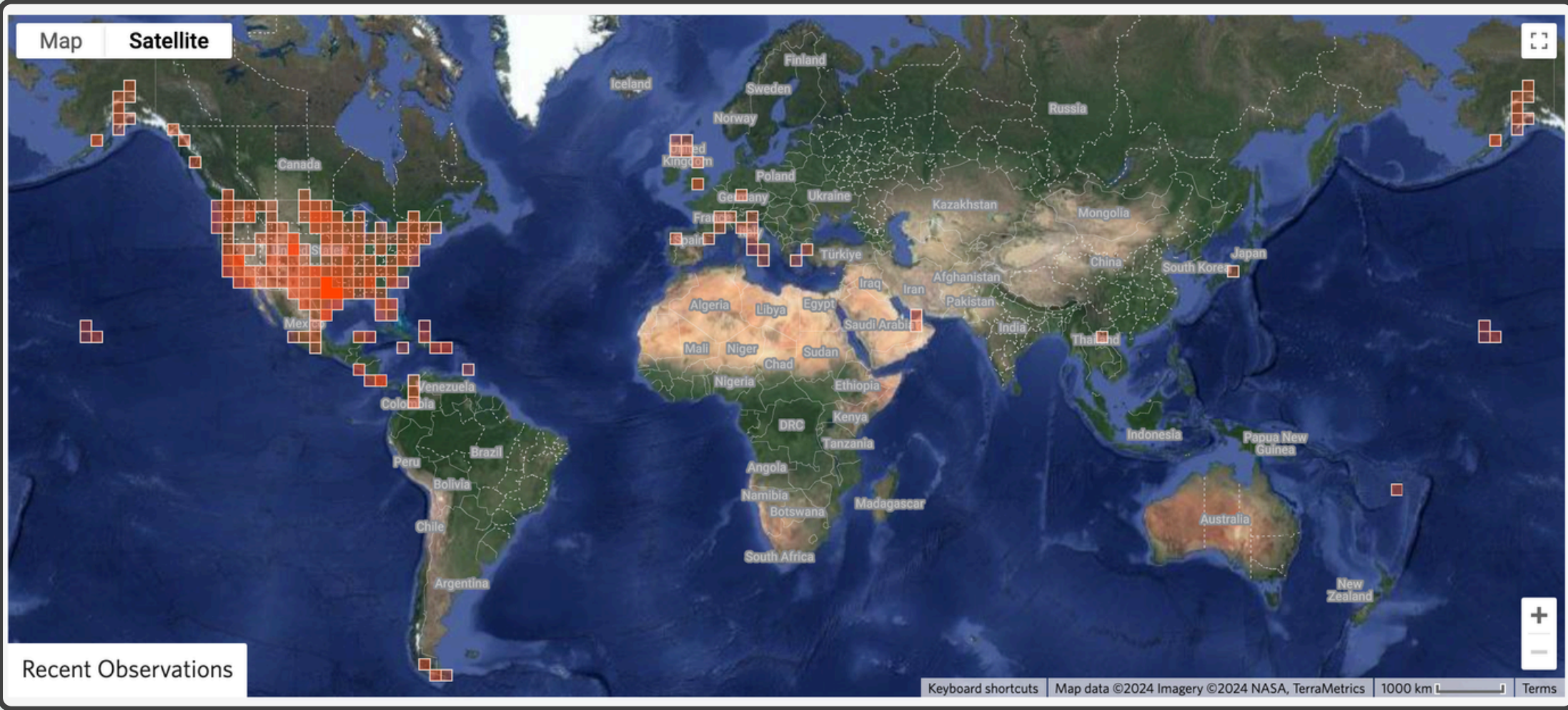
[Read More >](#) [Your Membership](#)


[Edit Project](#) [Project Journal](#)

University of North Texas SER and Ecology Lab Studen...

Overview **98,968** OBSERVATIONS **7,302** SPECIES **5,225** IDENTIFIERS **326** OBSERVERS [Stats](#)

iNaturalist





University of North Texas Biodiversity

About Members 25

How many taxa have you seen at UNT? Did you know that UNT maintains a Bee Campus USA and Tree Campus USA status every year?! We also have a Bird Campus Committee! To help understand UNT biodiversity, this project automatically collects all taxa observations within the University of North Texas, Denton Campus.

[Read More >](#) [Your Membership](#)

[Edit Project](#) [Project Journal](#)

Overview **22,295** OBSERVATIONS **1,791** SPECIES **1,992** IDENTIFIERS **828** OBSERVERS [Stats](#)


[UNT All Biodiversity](#)

[UNT Pollinative Prairie](#)

[UNT Trees](#)

[UNT Birds](#)

[LLELA Biodiversity](#)



University of North Texas Pecan Creek Pollinative Prairie


About Members 101

The University of North Texas Pecan Creek Pollinative Prairie is a native north central Texas tallgrass prairie reconstruction project located on four acres of the east field at the University of North Texas Discovery Park Campus. The mission of the Pollinative Prairie is to increase native north central Texas flora and fauna species on an urban

[Read More >](#) [Your Membership](#)

[Edit Project](#)

Overview **9,699** OBSERVATIONS **954** SPECIES **1,012** IDENTIFIERS **340** OBSERVERS



Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA)


About Leave 41

Project to automatically aggregate observations to show the full biodiversity at LLELA in Lewisville, TX.

[Read More >](#) [Your Membership](#)

[Project Journal](#)

Overview **103,983** OBSERVATIONS **3,556** SPECIES **4,599** IDENTIFIERS **1,177** OBSERVERS [Stats](#)



University of North Texas Ecology and SER

About Members 17

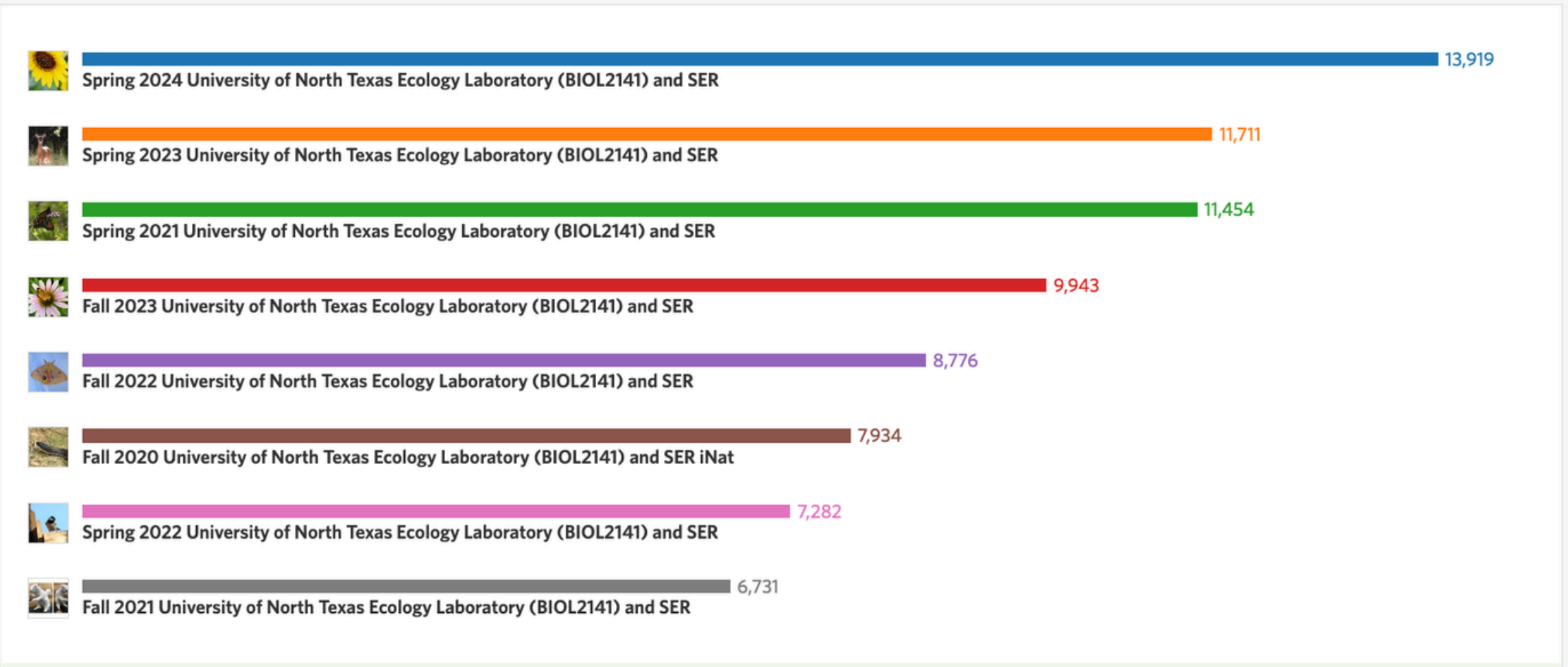
Tracking all semesters of observations from UNT Ecology Laboratory and the UNT student chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration

[Read More >](#) [Your Membership](#)

[Edit Project](#) [Project Journal](#)

Overview **78,805** OBSERVATIONS **5,086** SPECIES **3,664** IDENTIFIERS **372** OBSERVERS [Stats](#)

Leaderboard Sort By: Observations | Species | Observers



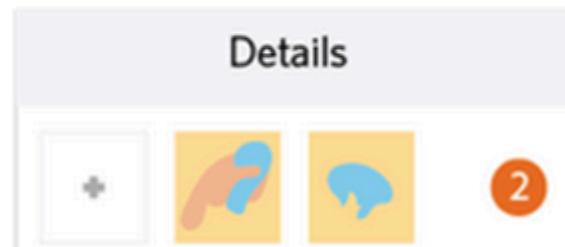
[Click here to view all semesters](#)

We use iNaturalist to document flora and fauna.

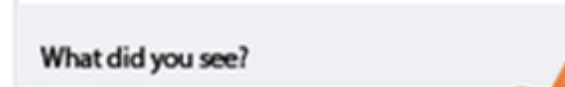
1 Tap **observe**



2 Add one or more photos as **evidence**



3 Enter **what** you saw or leave this blank



4 **When** you saw it should be added automatically



5 **Where** you saw it should be added automatically, if not check Privacy in the Settings app



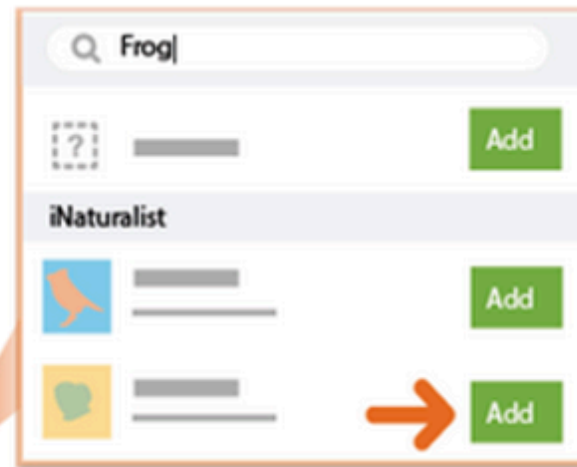
6 **Save** your observation



7 **Upload** to share with the community. This should happen automatically, if not tap the button. You can turn off autoupload from the app settings from the Me tab.



8 Check back for **activity** on your observation from the community



Search for your organism or leave it blank and ask the community for help



The app should fetch your location automatically and display it on the map. If it doesn't, go to the Settings app and tap Privacy to enable Location Services for iNaturalist

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

eBird

<https://ebird.org/home>

