

BI 324: Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy  
Western Oregon University  
Fall 2012

**Contact Information**

Dr. Michael J. Baltzley

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219 Natural Sciences

Office Hours: M 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

T 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Th 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**Meeting times and location**

MWF 1:00 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Natural Sciences Building, Room 215

MW 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Natural Sciences Building, Room 004

**Course Objectives:**

The goals of this course are:

- 1) to master the structure of the skeletal, muscular, and digestive systems of vertebrate
- 2) to appreciate the evolutionary relationships among the body plans of the vertebrate groups
- 3) to understand the form-and-function relationships for the body systems studied.

The laboratory portions of the course will emphasis the study of three a shark, a salamander, and a cat, although other organisms will be utilized as appropriate. Lecture slides, lecture audio, and lab instructions will be posted on the course Moodle site.

**Text:** *Vertebrates: Comparative Anatomy, Function, Evolution* (Kardong – 6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2011)

**Grading:**

Lecture Exams (3 @ 100 pts. each)	300 points
Laboratory Practical Exams	
Practical I	100
Practical II	100
Practical III	<u>50</u>
	<b>550 points*</b>

\* Up to 50 additional points may be added at the discretion of the instructor. These may include written assignments, lecture summaries, quizzes, etc.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE THE EXAMS ON THE SCHEDULED DAYS. If you miss an exam or will be missing an exam, contact the instructor as soon as possible. If the absence is EXCUSED, you will be able to make up the exam for the full points possible. However, only the following will be considered an excusable absence:

1. A university-related absence (i.e., game, concert tour, fieldtrip, etc.). You *must* contact me prior to the event for the absence to be excused.

2. A personal issue that is excused by the Office of Student Affairs (503-838-8221). The Office of Student Affairs will contact your instructors, including myself, via a phone message, informing us of the situation.
3. Three or more exams scheduled for the same day.

If the absence is UNEXCUSED, you will be able to make up the exam but you will receive a 10% penalty on the overall exam score for each day the exam is not completed. Once an exam is handed back, no make-up exams will be given.

**NOTE:** Departmental policy is that 3 unexcused lab absences will result in an F for the course.

### **Extra credit opportunity**

You may elect to read the book *Your Inner Fish* by Neil Shubin as an extra credit assignment. If you choose to complete this assignment, you will be expected to turn in 2 written assignments and answer several questions on the final exam. Details of the written assignment will be posted on the course Moodle site.

Deadlines for the assignment are as follows:

**Oct. 8:** Demonstrate that you have a copy of the book

**Nov. 5:** Submit 1<sup>st</sup> written assignment (10 pts)

**Nov. 30:** Submit 2<sup>nd</sup> written assignment (10 pts)

**Dec. 7:** Final exam questions (5 pts)

### **Academic Misconduct**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all students. Academic dishonesty is a violation of the WOU Code of Student Responsibility. Academic dishonesty is defined as an intentional act of deception in one of the following areas: Cheating, Fabrication, Assisting, Tampering, or Plagiarism (see Code of Student Responsibility for description of each). A single incidence of cheating or plagiarism will result in a 0 on the assignment, may result in a failing grade for the course, and will be reported to the office of Judicial Affairs with possibilities of additional penalties.

### **Students with Disabilities:**

It is necessary for students seeking individualized accommodations or services to contact the Office of Disabilities Services (ODS) for proper documentation. ODS is located in the Academic Programs and Support Center (APSC), Suite 405 (503-838-8250; [ods@wou.edu](mailto:ods@wou.edu); <http://www.wou.edu/student/disability>).

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Chapters</b>	<b>Laboratory</b>
1	24 Sept	Introduction	1	
	26 Sept	“		Introduction
	28 Sept	Origin of Chordates	2	
2	1 Oct	Skeleton - Skull	7	Skeleton - Skull
	3 Oct	“		“
	5 Oct	Origin of Chordates	2	
3	8 Oct	Skeleton - Axial	8	Skeleton – Post-cranial
	10 Oct	“		“
	12 Oct	“		
4	15 Oct	<b>EXAM I</b>	<b>1, 2, 7, 8</b>	Review
	17 Oct	Skeleton - Appendicular	9	<b>LAB PRACTICAL I</b>
	19 Oct	“		
5	22 Oct	Muscular System	10	Muscular System
	24 Oct	“		“
	26 Oct	“		
6	29 Oct	Vertebrate Evolution	3	Muscular System
	31 Oct	“		“
	2 Nov	Respiratory System	11	
7	5 Nov	“		Muscular System
	7 Nov	“		“
	9 Nov	Circulatory System	12	
8	12 Nov	<b>EXAM II</b>	<b>3, 9, 10, 11</b>	Review
	14 Nov	Circulatory System	12	<b>LAB PRACTICAL II</b>
	16 Nov	“		
9	19 Nov	Digestive System	13	Digestive System
	21 Nov	“		“
	23 Nov	<b>THANKSGIVING—NO CLASS</b>		
10	26 Nov	Sensory Organs	17	Review
	28 Nov	“		<b>LAB PRACTICAL III</b>
	30 Nov	“		
<b>Final</b>	<b>7 Dec</b>	<b>10:00 – 11:50 a.m. (NS 122)</b>	<b>12, 13, 17</b>	