BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DIVISION OF MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY AND HORTICULTURE

STUDENT COURSE OUTLINE

Semester __________________________

INSTRUCTOR’S NAME: __________________________ TELEPHONE_____

Office #:_________ Office Hours:_________ / _________ / _________

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COURSE TITLE: BS 119 - Intensive Wolf Study

COURSE COORDINATOR: Dr. Les M. Lynn

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE CREDITS/HOURS: 3 credits / 3 lecture

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE: NO

COURSE DESCRIPTION: BS 119, Intensive Wolf Study is a comprehensive study of perhaps the most misunderstood mammal in the northern hemisphere, the gray wolf (Canis lupus). This course is taught over a period of one week in January at the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota. Topics include the biology, ecology and social behavior of this organism. Wolf management issues including the reintroduction of the wolf to parts of its former range will be discussed. Afternoon sessions include field work in tracking wild wolves and observations of the Wolf Center’s captive wolf pack. Evening sessions include calling and tracking wild wolves and independent study.
STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES
The student will be able to:

1. Explain basic knowledge of what was, the most widely distributed mammal in the northern hemisphere.
2. Identify the basic biology, ecology and social behavior of the gray wolf.
3. To track and hopefully observe, wild wolves in their natural habitat and to observe a captive wolf pack.
4. Recognize the past and present natural environment of the gray wolf.


TO BE READ BEFORE YOU ARRIVE IN ELY. On Your arrival you will submit your paper on this book, more about it inside.


TO BE READ WHILE IN ELY

ORDER THESE BOOKS FROM BARNES & NOBLE, AMAZON.COM, YOUR COLLEGE BOOKSTORE, ETC.

EVALUATION: One exam will be scheduled for the last morning session before we leave Ely, and one paper will be due, on your arrival in Ely. This paper will be on The Return of the Wolf. It is a book of four essays. To make this easy for you, I expect you, for each essay, to highlight the main points and then spend time discussing your reaction to the essays. I would spend a MINIMUM of two, double-spaced, no larger than 12 point fonts, on each essay. It of course, must be typed. You may email the paper to me BEFORE the course actually begins, if you wish, as an attachment to an email.
"GENERIC" DAILY AGENDA:  I. Morning Lectures will be followed by a video where appropriate, observations of the captive pack and independent study. We will fit the “Wolves and Humans” exhibit in there, and a conference call with Dr. Mech, if possible, and observations of the captive pack in morning sessions.

“Generic” Lecture Schedule: Evening #1: Ecology of the Northwoods

Day #1: Your Basic Wolf Biology
Day #2 Basic Wolf Ecology and Pack Structure
Day #3: Wolves Around the World, the Wolves of Isle Royale, Yellowstone and Idaho Reintroduction
Day #4: Wolf Management and Reintroduction Issues
Day #5: Reintroduction into the Northeast, Canis lycaon Issues, the Mexican Wolf and Current Research Topics

A modified schedule will be distributed as circumstances allow

II. Lunch is approximately at noon.

IV. Dinner will be at approximately 5:30 P.M.

V. Evening Sessions: Evening sessions will begin at approximately 7:00 P.M.

Afternoon 1: Wolf Signs and the Ecology of the North Woods Hike/Snowshoe:
Afternoon 2: Aerial Telemetry and/or Wolf Parasites
Afternoon 3: Wolf Signs and Hike/Snowshoe to an Abandoned Den
Afternoon 4: Wolf Necropsy and/or Ground Telemetry
Afternoon 5: Wolf Signs/Parasites

V. Dinner will be at approximately 5:30 P.M.

VI. Evening Sessions: Evening sessions will begin at approximately 7:00 P.M. One evening we will observe the captive pack as it is fed. On two evenings, we will finish up early (between 8 and 9 PM. We will then meet again at 12:30 AM!!!!!! To go howling and looking for wolves! We will return At about 2:30 AM. Class will reconvene at approximately 9:30 AM.
Evening Sessions will be spent in the field, communicating with wolves, moonlight hikes, ground telemetry and time to work on the independent projects.

This schedule is subject to change depending on the WEATHER and other circumstances!

A note about the WEATHER!!!!

Northeastern Minnesota is known for its WEATHER! Temperatures of -40° F. are not unknown and January temperatures are commonly BELOW 0° F!!!! You must dress appropriately for this kind of WEATHER. It is not something to be taken lightly or for granted. Dress in layers, with the layer next to the skin of a thermal material such as polypropylene. Cotton is not recommended because it stays wet with perspiration and does not retain your body heat. Layer your clothing so it can be removed as you warm up. You do not want to sweat, if possible, and if you do, you want material that will wick away the perspiration. Fleece material is also very good because it will keep you warm even if it gets wet.

A good pair of boots is essential. We aren’t talking about hiking boots or galoshes or heaven forbid, sneakers. You will need a pair of boots that you can snowshoe in, that will keep you warm in subzero temperatures. Two such companies that make these boots are Sorel™ and L.L. Bean™. Pacs (with heavy socks) and mukluks will also do the trick.

A Note about SMOKING!

There is no smoking in the Wolf Center, the lodge and the van. There are no exceptions and please do not take a “vote.” If you need to smoke you will do it out-of-doors. If we are ALL out-of-doors (as in the field), you will remove yourself from the group and smoke your cigarette DOWNWIND of the group. Thank You!