



THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, AKURE

Department of Ecotourism and Wildlife Management

EWM 303 – Wildlife Ecology

COURSE PARTICULARS

Course Code: EWM 303

Course Title: Wildlife Ecology

No. of Units: 3

Course Duration: Two hours of theory per week for 15 weeks.

Status: Compulsory

Course Email Address:

Course Webpage:

Prerequisite: NIL

COURSE INSTRUCTORS

Mrs. O.O. Oyeleke

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and

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is one of the basic courses in Wildlife Management/Conservation that provides students with the required knowledge on the scope and meaning of Ecotourism and Wildlife generally. The course exposes students to knowledge of the wild animals with reference to their distribution, natural history, niche concept (habitat studies of wildlife communities in major aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems of Nigeria), food and feeding habits of wildlife species, population, territorial defence, home range of the individual species populations, identification and classification of important African wildlife species, morphology, anatomy, physiology and the reproductive cycles of some selected species of important wild animals for “bush-meat” production, and the distribution, systematic ecology and economic value of the mammalian fauna of Tropical Africa.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of this course is to:

- introduce students to the fundamentals of wild animal ecology as the underlying fact in wildlife management.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / COMPETENCIES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

(Knowledge based)

- describe the ecology of some wild animals with respect to their habitats and feeding habits;
- identify and classify some important African wildlife species;
- describe the morphology, anatomy, physiology and the reproductive cycles of some selected wild species for bush-meat.

(Skills)

- apply the knowledge gained to the management of any wildlife species.

GRADING SYSTEM FOR THE COURSE

This course will be graded as follows:

Class Attendance	10%
Practicals	30%
Test(s)	20%
<u>Final Examination</u>	<u>40%</u>
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>100%</u>

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Attendance: It is expected that every student will be in class for lectures and also participate in all practical exercises. Attendance records will be kept and used to determine each person's qualification to sit for the final examination. In case of illness or other unavoidable cause of absence, the student must communicate as soon as possible with any of the instructors, indicating the reason for the absence.

Academic Integrity: Violations of academic integrity, including dishonesty in assignments, examinations, or other academic performances are prohibited. You are not allowed to make copies of another person's work and submit it as your own; that is plagiarism. All cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Management for appropriate sanctions in accordance with the guidelines for handling students' misconduct as spelt out in the Students' Handbook.

Assignments and Group Work: Students are expected to submit practical assignments as scheduled. Failure to submit an assignment as at when due will earn you zero for that assignment. Only under extenuating circumstances, for which a student has notified any of the instructors in advance, will late submission of assignments be permitted.

Code of Conduct in Lecture Rooms and Laboratories: Students should turn off their cell phones during lectures. Students are prohibited from engaging in other activities (such as texting, watching videos, *etc.*) during lectures. Food and drinks are not permitted in the laboratories.

READING LIST

¹Wildlife Ecology, Conservation and Management 2nd Edition by A.R.E. Sinclair

¹Wildlife Ecology and Management (5th Edition) Eric G. Bolen, William Robinson.

Ecology and Field Biology. 6th Edition by Robert L. Smith.

Legend

1- Available as Personal Collection

COURSE OUTLINE

Week	Topic	Remarks
1	Introduction to Ecology of wild animals (Distribution and natural history)	
2 & 3	Niche concept: Habitat studies of wildlife. Aquatic & terrestrial ecosystems of Nigeria	
4 & 5	Food & feeding habits of wildlife species	Students are expected to engage in practical classes by visiting habitats of different wildlife species in FUTA Wildlife park.
6 & 7	Population, territorial defence, home range of the individual species populations.	Students are expected to engage in practical classes
8 & 9	Identification and classification of important African wildlife species	Students will be expected to identify different wildlife species on field using direct and indirect indices. Reports on field work will be expected
		MID-SEMESTER TEST
10, 11 & 12	Morphology, anatomy, physiology and the reproductive cycles of some selected species of important wild animals for bush meat production	Laboratory work is expected, Students will also be expected to take practical classes in the snail and grasscutter domestication unit.

13	The distribution, systematic ecology of the mammalian fauna of Tropical Africa	
14	Economic value of the mammalian fauna of Tropical Africa	
15	REVISION	This is the week preceding the final examination. At this time, evaluation will be done to assess how far the students' expectations for the course have been met.