ORIGINAL COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: May 2013
REVISED COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 2022
COURSE TO BE REVIEWED (six years after UEC approval)**:** January 2028
Course outline form version: 05/18/2018

OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE FORM

Note: The University reserves the right to amend course outlines as needed without notice.

Course Code and Number: BIO 380	**Number of Credits:** 4 Course credit policy (105)

Course Full Title: Ornithology
Course Short Title:
(Transcripts only display 30 characters. Departments may recommend a short title if one is needed. If left blank, one will be assigned.)

Faculty: Faculty of Science	**Department (or program if no department):** Biology

Calendar Description:

An introduction to the study of birds and their diversity. Topics include the origin and evolution of birds; avian taxonomy; avian flight and the design of feathers; long-distance migration; avian reproductive anatomy, physiology, and reproductive strategies; avian behavior and communication; cognition; and the conservation of birds.

Prerequisites (or NONE):	BIO 210 and 45 university-level credits.
Corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	
Pre/corequisites (if applicable, or NONE):	

Antirequisite Courses *(Cannot be taken for additional credit.)*
Former course code/number: **BIO 421J**
Cross-listed with:
Dual-listed with:
Equivalent course(s): **BIO 421J**
(If offered in the previous five years, antirequisite course(s) will be included in the calendar description as a note that students with credit for the antirequisite course(s) cannot take this course for further credit.)

Typical Structure of Instructional Hours

Lecture/seminar hours	45
Tutorials/workshops	
Supervised laboratory hours	45
Experiential (field experience, practicum, internship, etc.)	
Supervised online activities	
Other contact hours:	
Total hours	**90**

Labs to be scheduled independent of lecture hours: ☐ No ☒ Yes

Special Topics *(Double-click on boxes to select.)*
This course is offered with different topics:
☒ No ☐ Yes *(If yes, topic will be recorded when offered.)*

Independent Study
If offered as an Independent Study course, this course may be repeated for further credit: *(If yes, topic will be recorded.)*
☒ No ☐ Yes, repeat(s) ☐ Yes, no limit

Transfer Credit
Transfer credit already exists: *(See **bctransferguide.ca**.)*
☒ No ☐ Yes
Submit outline for (re)articulation:
☐ No ☒ Yes *(If yes, fill in transfer credit form.)*

Grading System
☒ Letter Grades ☐ Credit/No Credit

Maximum enrolment (for information only): 24

Expected Frequency of Course Offerings:
Every other year *(Every semester, Fall only, annually, etc.)*

Department / Program Head or Director: Gregory Schmaltz	**Date approved:** September 2021
Faculty Council approval	**Date approved:** October 8, 2021
Undergraduate Education Committee (UEC) approval	**Date of meeting:** January 28, 2022

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Demonstrate information competency on topics such as taxonomy, morphology, physiology, ecology, behavior, evolution and conservation of birds.
2. Identify resident and migrant birds of Southwestern BC by sight and sound.
3. Analyze critically relevant literature information on various topics in current avian research.
4. Communicate effectively both orally and through writing on current findings in various avian topics.
5. Engage in collaborative leadership both in the lecture and lab.
6. Value the diversity and beauty of birds.

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

☒ Yes ☐ No, PLAR cannot be awarded for this course because

Typical Instructional Methods *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.; may vary at department's discretion.)*

The course will consist of a series of lectures, field trips, laboratory exercises, student presentations, small group practice and class discussions. For some aspects of the course audio-visual presentations, photographs, drawings, sound recording, and museum specimens will be used.

NOTE: The following sections may vary by instructor. Please see course syllabus available from the instructor.

Typical Text(s) and Resource Materials *(If more space is required, download Supplemental Texts and Resource Materials form.)*

	Author (surname, initials)	Title (article, book, journal, etc.)	Current ed.	Publisher	Year
1.	Gill	Ornithology	☒	Freeman	2019
2.			☐		

Required Additional Supplies and Materials *(Software, hardware, tools, specialized clothing, etc.)*

Students will require a bird field guide appropriate for British Columbia, such as Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America or Peterson field guide: Western Birds.

Typical Evaluation Methods and Weighting

Final exam:	30%	Term paper:	15%	Field book:	5%	Portfolio:	%
Midterm exam:	12%	Oral presentation:	15%	Practicum:	%	Bird Visual and Sound ID:	8%
Quizzes/tests:	%	Lab exam:	15%	Shop work:	%	Total:	100%

Details (if necessary):

Typical Course Content and Topics

Lecture topics:

- Introduction: Why study birds and what are their value? including an Indigenous perspective
- Taxonomy
- Physiology
- Anatomy
- Feathers, molts, and flight
- Song and migration
- Reproductive behavior
- Breeding systems
- Parents and offspring conflicts
- Migration
- Communication and cognition
- Ecology and conservation
- Laboratory topics:
- Introduction to field techniques
- Bird Identification
- External anatomy
- Internal anatomy: Pigeon dissection
- Taxidermy
- Pending availability, dissection of already prepared pigeon specimens and/or of salvaged wild birds held under Canadian Wildlife Services salvage permit.
- Molt and Feathers
- Field trips to various ecosystems: riparian, coastal, marsh, grassland, mixed and deciduous forests to identify birds
- Student presentations