

**VERTEBRATE NATURAL HISTORY**  
**IB 104LF**

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Office hours for faculty and GSIs will be posted on the bulletin board near 3095 VLSB. Messages can be left in mailboxes in the front office of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (MVZ, 3101 VLSB).

Lecture: Tues, Thurs, 09:30-11:00 in 170 Barrows Hall. Lab: Wed 1-4 pm, Thurs 2-5 pm, 3095 VLSB.

**Required Books:**

Sibley, D. A. 2003. *The Sibley field guide to the birds of western North America*. Alfred A. Knopf, 1st edition.

Stebbins, R. C. 2003. *Field guide to amphibians and reptiles of California*. UC Press, Berkeley.

Reid, F. A. 2006. *A field guide to mammals of North America*. Peterson Field Guide Series, 4th edition. Houghton Mifflin Company.

Johnson, N. K., M. J. Mahoney, J. L. Patton, and R. C. Stebbins. 2003. Vertebrate Natural History Laboratory and Field Syllabus for Integrative Biology 104L (sold at Copy Central, 48 Shattuck Square, 848-7034, square@copycentral.com).

**Point allocation for the course:**

1 mid-term exam	150 pts.
1 final exam (comprehensive)	250 pts.
2 laboratory practical exams (100 pts. each)	200 pts.
1 field notebook	100 pts.
1 independent field project	150 pts.
1 peer review exercise	20 pts.
13 field trips	130 pts.
 Total points possible	 1000 pts.

**Laboratory:** Please read pages 3-15 in the lab syllabus before the first lab meeting. You may not attend a lab section other than the one to which you have been assigned. If you should miss your lab meeting for a valid reason, see your GSI for a note permitting you to attend the other section.

**Field trips:** Before the first field trip read pages 118-121 in the lab syllabus. Bring a field notebook to the first field trip (see page 118, #1). Also bring a pen with waterproof black ink. See notebook examples in the laboratory. The field notebook will be handed in on **February 11** for a progress inspection. It is required that you bring binoculars and a field guide on all trips. 7X-10X power binoculars with coated lenses and center focusing are best for observing birds, but other kinds may be suitable.

## **ATTENDANCE IS REQUIRED ON ALL FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips will be held rain or shine so come dressed appropriately. No umbrellas, pets, friends, or relatives are allowed on IB 104 field trips.

Binders and paper for your field journals can be purchased from ALKO office supply, 2225 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, 510-848-3356.

**Independent field project:** One of the most important requirements for this course is a written report on your individual field project. Read pages 122-123 in the lab syllabus before selecting a topic. You must discuss your proposed topic with an instructor and/or GSI. We recommend that you begin these discussions early in the semester. Before beginning the project, turn in a research proposal (pp. 124-126 in lab syllabus). The proposal is due in your lab on **February 26, 27**. If you intend to study either amphibians or wintering birds, you should obtain early approval; these animals are not usually available for study after mid-March.

The typed report for your independent field project must be understandable without reference to anything else, even your field notes. Do not use library references; the basis for the report must be the original data that you have obtained in the field through your own efforts. You may not use for IB 104LF the same project you have done, or are doing, for another course. No joint projects are allowed, but for reasons of safety we recommend that when possible you conduct your fieldwork with one or more students from the course. **Do not work alone in remote sections of parks or in areas where you feel unsafe.**

**YOUR APPROVED RESEARCH PROPOSAL AND ALL FIELD NOTES AND DATA SHEETS PERTAINING TO YOUR PROJECT MUST BE HANDED IN WITH THE TYPED REPORT AT THE END OF THE SEMESTER. GRADES FOR LATE PROJECTS WILL BE SEVERELY REDUCED.**

Spring 2014

## VERTEBRATE NATURAL HISTORY

IB 104LF

LECTURE			LABORATORY	FIELD
T	Jan 20	Intro/Vertebrate Diversity	Jan 21, 22 Birds	Jan 23, 24 Birds
TH	Jan 22	Birds		
T	Jan 27	Birds	Jan 28, 29 Birds	Jan 30, 31 Birds
TH	Jan 29	Birds		
T	Feb 3	Birds	Feb 4, 5 Birds	Feb 6, 7 Birds
TH	Feb 5	Birds		
T	Feb 10	Birds	Feb 11, 12 Birds	Feb 13, 14 Birds
TH	Feb 12	Birds		
T	Feb 17	Birds	Feb 18, 19 Amphibians	Feb 20, 21 Amphibians
TH	Feb 19	Amphibians		
T	Feb 24	Amphibians	Feb 25, 26 Amphibians	Feb 27, 28 Amphibians
TH	Feb 26	Amphibians		
T	Mar 3	Amphibians	Mar 4, 5 <b>Lab Exam</b>	Mar 6, 7 Mammals
TH	Mar 5	Mammals	(Birds & Amphibs, MVZ tour)	
T	Mar 10	<b>Lecture Exam 1</b>	Mar 11, 12 Mammals	Mar 13, 14 Indiv. Field Proj.
TH	Mar 12	Mammals		
T	Mar 17	Mammals	Mar 18, 19 Mammals	Mar 20, 21 Mammals
TH	Mar 19	Mammals		
T	Mar 24	Spring recess	Mar 25, 26 No labs	Mar 27, 28 No field trips
TH	Mar 26	Spring recess		
T	Mar 31	Mammals	Apr 1, 2 Mammals	Apr 3, 4 General
TH	Apr 2	Mammals		
T	Apr 7	Mammals	Apr 8, 9 Reptiles	Apr 10, 11 Mammals
TH	Apr 9	Mammals		
T	Apr 14	Mammals	Apr 15, 16 Reptiles	Apr 17, 18 Birds (5:30-9:30 am)
TH	Apr 16	Reptiles		
T	Apr 21	Reptiles	Apr 22, 23 Reptiles	Apr 24, 25 Reptiles
TH	Apr 23	Reptiles	& peer review	
T	Apr 28	Reptiles	April 29, Apr 30 <b>Lab Exam</b>	May 1, 2 Night observ.
TH	Apr 30	Reptiles	(Mammals & Reptiles)	(Corral Hollow, 2:00 PM–on)

## Field Trip Schedule 2014

Week	Date	Location
1	Jan 23, 24	Birds: Berkeley, Aquatic Park
2	Jan 30, 31	Birds: Tilden, Jewel Lake
3	Feb 6, 7	Birds: Arrowhead Marsh
4	Feb 13, 14	Birds: Coyote Hills
5	Feb 20, 21	Amphibs: Briones (Alhambra Val. Rd.)
6	Feb 27, 28	Amphibs: Briones (Bear Creek Rd.)
7	Mar 6, 7	Mammals: Tilden
8	Mar 13, 14	<i>Free – Individual Field Projects</i>
9	Mar 20, 21	Mammals: Pt. Pinole
10	Mar 27, 28	<i>Spring Break (no field trip)</i>
11	Apr 3, 4	General: Sunol
12	Apr 10, 11	Mammals: Pt. Reyes
13	Apr 17, 18	Reptiles: Sunol
14	Apr 24, 25	Birds (dawn chorus): Tilden
15	May 1, 2	General: Corral Hollow day trip

### Important dates:

Field notebook handed in for preliminary evaluation due: **February 10 in lecture**

Field project proposal due: **in lab on February 25, 26**

Field project submission for peer review due: **in lab on April 22, 23**

Final version of Field Project due in lecture: **Thursday April 30**

Field notebook final version due in lecture: **Thursday April 30**

**Final Exam: Wednesday May 13 11:30-2:30 PM**

**Jim away field trip week 3, week 14**

**Rauri misses field trip week 12**

**Alan misses field trip week 13**