

Wildlife Biology Concentration

Fisheries Science Option

Career Opportunities

Humanity is dependent upon coexistence with a multitude of wildlife species in balanced ecosystems. Trained wildlife professionals are able to apply scientific principles and techniques to modify environmental conditions to favor fish and wildlife. They must not only understand the needs of fish and wildlife, but how to provide those needs, in harmony with man's other land management activities, such as forestry, agriculture and industrial development. They must be able to resolve human and wildlife conflicts to the benefit of both and to the detriment of neither. The wildlife biology curriculum provides a broad general education with a strong background in life sciences. The fisheries science option qualifies graduates for certification as Associate Fisheries Professionals by the American Fisheries Society, the national scientific organization of the wildlife profession.

Employment Possibilities

Agencies of various levels of government have historically been major employers of fisheries professionals. This continues to be true, but an increasing number of fisheries professionals are employed by private and corporate firms as concern about the environmental impact of industrial activities increases. Graduates of the fisheries science option are eligible for entry-level employment as conservation officers, fisheries research technicians, lake or hatchery managers, wildlife damage control technicians and environmental impact consultants. Graduates are also well prepared to pursue advanced degrees.

Facilities

Classes and laboratory exercises are conducted in modern and comfortable facilities using modern instructional equipment. Many courses take frequent field trips to privately owned areas, state and federal wildlife refuges and management areas, and state and national parks. Upper division wildlife courses emphasize field participation with professional biologists of state and federal agencies to help students get experience and increase knowledge about practical management techniques. Numerous computer facilities are available for student use. An active UT Martin student chapter of The Wildlife Society (the national professional organization) provides a multitude of opportunities for students to gain hands-on wildlife experience. Students also have the opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Sample Program of Study

This list includes all courses required; however, the sequence may be flexible.

Freshman Year

Fall

Biology 110: Introductory Cell Biology and Genetics	4
English 111: English Composition	3
Math 140: College Algebra and Elementary Functions.....	3
Natural Resources Management 100: Introduction to Natural Resources Management	3
Fine Arts Elective*	3
Total Hours.....	16

Spring

Biology 120: Introductory Plant and Animal Biology	4
English 112: English Composition.....	3
Math 160: Calculus for Business and Life Sciences.....	3
Humanities Elective*	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences Elective*	3
Total Hours.....	16

Sophomore Year

Fall

Biology 331: General Ecology	3
Chemistry 111: Introduction to Chemistry I: General and Organic.....	4
Math 210: Elementary Statistics and Probability	3
Natural Resources Management 210: Mediating Environmental Conflicts	3
Humanities Elective*	3
Total Hours.....	16

Spring

Chemistry 112: Introduction to Chemistry II: General and Organic.....	4
Communications 230: Public Speaking	3
Soil Science 210: Introduction to Soil Science	4
Wildlife Biology 250: Principles of Wildlife Management.....	3
Total Hours.....	14

Junior Year

Fall

Biology 336: Introductory Genetics	3
Natural Resources Management 390: Career Planning in Natural Resource Management	2
Soil Science 315 or 430: Soil and Water Conservation or Wetland Science	3
Wildlife Biology 350: Wildlife Management Techniques....	4
General Elective**	4
Total Hours.....	16

Spring

Botany 303: Plant Taxonomy	3
Wildlife Biology 300: Principles of Fisheries Management	3
Wildlife Biology 330: Wildlife Biopolitics.....	3
Zoology 320: Ichthyology	3
Zoology 321: Ornithology	3
Total Hours.....	15

Senior Year

Fall

Biology 418:Limnology	3
Zoology 319 or 322: Mammalogy or Herpetology	3
Zoology 441, 442: Animal Ecology, Laboratory.....	4
Technology Elective*	3
Total Hours.....	13

Spring

Biology 413: Wildlife Biology Seminar	1
Natural Resources Management 430: Natural Resources Research... ..	3
Wildlife Biology 450: Wildlife Habitat Management	4
Humanities Elective*	3
Social & Behavioral Sciences Elective*	3
Total Hours.....	14

*See catalog for options.

** Summer enrollment at Gulf Cost Research Laboratory recommended.

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