

FORS 5330-7330 Wildlife Management in Agricultural Ecosystems

Lecture WF, 9:05-9:55am Warnell 1-209

Lab Thurs 2pm Meet Warnell parking lot. We will not have lab every week—but we will have lecture occasionally. This is a field trip lab meaning that you are expected to be ready to be in field. I try to get us back in time for the end of lab, but some sites are far away. I will warn you if I expect us to be late returning.

Class website: <http://gamebird.forestry.uga.edu/fors5330>

Website login fall2011

Website password student

This course covers several major areas relative to the development of agriculture and its impact on biodiversity. It also includes an introduction to management systems that enhance wildlife populations. Course focus is on agriculture and wildlife in Georgia, but including national and international issues. Please note that this course is designed to encompass a wide range of topics relative to wildlife and agriculture. I do this because wildlife majors at UGA have only one course to get virtually any background on one of the most widespread and important ecosystems in the state and country. Therefore, this course will not cover things, such as planting food plots and driving tractors.

Graduate students will be expected to be class leaders. They will be expected to complete additional sections in class exams, as well as produce a lecture on a semester project assignment.

The major focus of this course is to introduce students to the relationship between agricultural management and wildlife. Students will be expected to leave the course with an understanding of the:

- Impact of agricultural systems on wildlife and biodiversity.
- Mitigation and management of agricultural lands for wildlife.
- Alternative approaches to agriculture to benefit wildlife.
- Effects of government policy and globalization on the relationship between agriculture and wildlife.

As in any field course the syllabus is my best estimate of the semester schedule. I reserve the right to change the syllabus any time to accommodate weather, various guest lecture opportunities, and potential scheduling conflicts with those helping with field portions of class.

Topics

1. Introduction
2. History of agriculture
3. World food supply
4. Wildlife and the agricultural ecosystem

5. Row crop agriculture and wildlife
6. Grazing and grassland agriculture and wildlife
7. Alternative agricultural management systems
8. GM crops and wildlife
9. Agriculture and biofuels
10. Wetlands in agricultural ecosystem
11. Pesticides and wildlife
12. Landscape ecology in agricultural context
13. Wildlife management systems
14. Habitat assessment on farmland
15. NRCS Farm Plans
16. State and Federal agriculture policy
17. Problem wildlife
18. Wildlife as a farm commodity

Course Lab

The lab in this course is designed to compliment the lecture, but not directly. It is meant to provide some field experience and exposure to wildlife issues on agricultural land in this region. It will include a number of field trips to visit farm around Athens, but also much further afield. Some of our field trips will run over the time period for class.

Textbooks and Readings

There is no assigned textbook for this course because I have not found one that I like. There are many pdf readings on the website. These are required and important. I am known to include several high point essay questions on assigned readings on the tests.

Class Website

This course has most materials posted on my server. Please go to the following url:
<http://gamebird.forestry.uga.edu/fors5330> .

Grading

Mid-term exam	20%
Semester project	20%
Homework/lab--including plant collection	20%
Challenge assignments	10%
Final exam	30%

Attendance

Attendance during lecture periods is recommended and encouraged, but not required. However, attendance during lab field trips is required and is included in the Homework/lab grade.

Academic Honesty Policy

Students are expected to read, understand, and follow the UGA Student Honor Code—and the Warnell policy.

Course Instructor

Dr. John P. Carroll
Office Warnell 3-409b
Tel 542-5815
Email jcarroll@warnell.uga.edu

Teaching Assistant

Ms. April Conway
Office Warnell 3-328
Email conwaya@warnell.uga.edu