

Vertebrate Zoology - BIO 3108

Instructor:

Dr. George A. Lozano
Mon. 900h-1300h,
Wed 9:00 – 11:30
262-2567

George.Lozano@science.uottawa.ca
<http://www.science.uottawa.ca/~gloza300/>

Teaching Assistants:

Tania Lefebvre: lefebvre.tania@hotmail.com
Dominique Maillet: DMAIL719@science.uottawa.ca
Jennifer Smith: jennifermsmith_@hotmail.com

Jonathan Holmes: jbolmes@science.uottawa.ca

Course Description

The Official Version: (3 hours of lecture per week and 3 hours of laboratory per week, 5 credits). Morphological evolution of present-day and fossil vertebrates oriented toward major functional and structural modifications; locomotion, feeding, respiratory and circulatory systems, reproduction, sense organs, adaptive radiations and biogeography. Laboratories: dissections and identification of Canadian fauna.

Prerequisite: BIO 2125 [Animal Form and Function](#)

Lectures: Mon. 13h00-14h30, Wed. 11h30-13h00

Labs.: Tue, Wed, Thu. 14h30 - 17h30

My 2 ¢.- A university course should be a joyful, fruitful and challenging exchange of ideas. I will do everything I can to make it so, and I hope you will do likewise. It will require a high level of work, competence and achievement, so please do not assume it is going to be a walk in the park.

In this course the ability to memorize vast quantities of information will only get you half way there. Whenever possible I will emphasize comprehending concepts, not memorizing facts. You must understand these concepts such that you are able to recognize them in different situations, and apply them in new and unexpected ways. You will be tested on your ability to synthesize, summarize, comprehend and extrapolate, rather than on your ability to memorize.

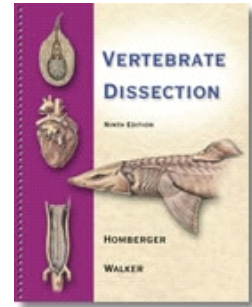
The lectures will cover the evolutionary history of vertebrates, with particular attention to the evolution of their organ systems. The laboratories will provide you with a comparative perspective of vertebrate anatomy and morphology, and will be integrated with the lectures as much as possible. This course represents a unique chance to examine the results of millions of years of evolution of a familiar group of animals. It should lead you to view *Homo sapiens* in a more realistic (i.e., modest) perspective, as merely one among many thousands of vertebrates, and certainly not as the pinnacle of creation. Evolution has no pre-ordained aims; the vertebrate lineage just happens to have produced animals with trunks, animals with slimy scales, animals with colourful plumages and animals with big heads.

Resources

Textbooks



Liem, K. F, Bemis, W. E., Walker, W. F, Jr. and Grande, L 2000. Functional Anatomy of the Vertebrates, 3rd edition. Brooks Cole Publishing. **\$125**



Walker, W. F, Jr. and Homberger, D. G. 2003. Vertebrate dissection 9th edition. Brooks Cole Publishing. **\$80**

Both books are available from the bookstore, where they are also available as a bundle for **\$177**. Used copies are surely floating around, in cyberspace perhaps.

Web sites

[The Tree of Life](#)
[Digital Morphology](#)
[BIO2125](#)
[Classroom success](#)

[Important dates](#)
[Department of biology](#)
[UO's cheating policies](#)
[George A. Lozano](#)

Grading and Exams

Exams.- Exams will cover all previously covered material, not just the last week, or the last month, and not just the material covered since the previous exam. Make sure you learn the material as we go along and do not wait until the day before an exam to find start studying, like I used to do.

Evaluation	% of total	Date/time
Midterm lab	18	Week of Feb 8
Final lab	27	
TOTAL LAB	45	
Midterm (80 minutes):	22	In class, Feb 2
Final exam (180 minutes)	33	
TOTAL LECTURE	55	

Academic Honesty.- Please check UO's official [web page on academic fraud](#).

Etc...

For [lecture](#) and [lab](#) schedules, lectures in pdf formats and other course information please check the course web site.