

Wildlife Biology

Ms. Cordes

Syllabus 2018-19



Contact information

Email: cordesr@sd5.k12.mt.us (This is the EASIEST way to reach me)

Web page: www.mscordes.com

Voice Mail: 751-3589

Classroom: Rm 223

Grades: <http://powerschool.sd5.k12.mt.us>

If you ever have questions or need extra help on assignments outside of class, I am available before and after school every day.

Welcome to Wildlife Biology!

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This semester course introduces students to the world of wildlife biology as it relates to flora, fauna, and management. Students will explore, through active research, simulations, and guest presenters, common wildlife identification and behavior, habitat components and assessment, population estimation techniques, big game management and critical species management, and perceptions of wildlife and their value.

Current field trips planned:

Glacier National Park --- Sept. 26, 2018

Fisheries field trip ---- October 2018

Bird field trip --- November 2018

NOTE: Students must be passing all classes to participate in field trips.

HONOR YOURSELF

- Be prepared by bringing required materials to class
- Be productive by actively listening, asking questions, following instructions, and using your class time to work
- Be honest
- Be a dreamer by connecting what you are learning to yourself and your life goals- think BIG! Do your best.

HONOR COMMUNITY

- Be on time to class
- Be a leader by beginning to work quietly or reminding those around you to stay on task
- Be polite by not distracting others
- Be respectful of the opinions of others, even if they differ from your own

HONOR THE MOMENT

- Be fully present by putting your phone and music away
- Be excited about learning- WONDER!
- Be grateful

Further details...

1. Food is allowed in the classroom at student desks if it is not a distraction. Drinks are allowed IF THEY HAVE LIDS. Any food or drink that does not meet these criteria will be confiscated until the end of class.
2. **UNPLUG!!! Technology is a tool, not a distraction. Cell phones and ipods/mp3 players should not be visible or in use AT ANY TIME unless special permission is granted (please ask).** If these devices are visible (earbuds included) at any other time, they will be confiscated.
3. FHS attendance policy and attendance incentive have changed. See the student handbook for details.
4. FHS dress code is to be followed AT ALL TIMES. See the student handbook for details.
5. Cheating, plagiarism, and copyright violations will not be tolerated. A first offense results in a zero on the assignment. A second offense results in potential failure of the entire semester.

Homework and assignments

All assignments will be recorded on my web page (so if you are at home and cannot remember if there is homework- check online!).

ALL FINAL DRAFTS OF PAPERS MUST BE TYPED! Emailed copies are acceptable under specific situations (especially when your printer runs out of ink!). **Time will not be given in class to print assignments on the day they are due. Assignments must be submitted in the first FIVE minutes of class to be considered on time.**

Daily work is graded on four criteria: completeness, promptness, originality, and quality. Assignments that are complete, original work of high quality, and handed in on time, will receive full credit.

Makeup work for excused absences can be completed according to the schedule described in the student handbook.

LATE WORK will receive partial credit. Every task assigned is an important step in preparation for the final projects/assessments. Doing the all the work is crucial for a student's success in wildlife biology!

First late assignment: 90% of earned credit
Third late assignment: 75% of earned credit

Second late assignment: 85% of earned credit
Fourth late assignment: 65% of earned credit

Throughout the semester, you can improve your "credit score" by handing assignments in on time. Life happens, but the chronic inability to meet deadlines can have a significant impact on your final grade.

Please note: EXTRA CREDIT IS NOT AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE MISSING ASSIGNMENTS OR HAVE EXCEEDED THE FIVE DAY ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU HAVE MISSED. Good places to start are your classmates and my website.

If you miss...

1. NOTES: Arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. If this is *impossible*, arrange a time to come in outside of class to get the notes from Ms. Cordes.
2. WORKSHEET: Check the file basket.
3. VIDEO: You must view the video outside of class time in the FHS library or my classroom.
4. ORAL PRESENTATIONS/ DEBATES/GROUP ACTIVITIES: If you are absent for significant group activities, you will be required to do a written project to substitute for this activity.
6. UNIT EXAMS/QUIZZES: Arrange to take the exam by scheduling it with Ms. Cordes immediately upon return. Failure to arrange make-ups may result in failure of the course.

NOTEBOOK AND SUPPLIES REQUIREMENT:

- a. a three ring binder for completed assessment statements
- b. a folder for class materials/handouts
- c. a notebook
- d. paper (loose leaf)
- e. pencil and a pen with blue or black ink

****If you have difficulty obtaining any of these supplies, please see me BEFORE they are needed in class****

DO NOT THROW OUT ANY WORK FROM THIS CLASS. YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT NEED IT!

FHS GRADE DETAILS

A	90-100	Grades are based on percent of total points per quarter. All assignments are weighted equally. I <u>do not round</u> percentages- what you earn is what you get!
B	80-89	
C	70-79	
D	60-69	
F	0-59	Your semester grade is calculated using 40% first quarter grade, 40% second quarter grade, 10% attendance, and 10% semester assessment grade.

Please sign below, and return this portion to Ms. Cordes by Friday, September 14, 2018.

I really did read the class information sheet and am aware of what is required of me as a student in Ms. Cordes' class. I agree to follow these guidelines throughout the school year. I have located the information sheet in my Wildlife Biology folder/binder where I can refer to it when needed.

Student signature _____

Student email: _____

I have read the class information sheet and am aware of what is required of my son/daughter in Ms. Cordes' class.

Parent signature _____

Please contact me via:

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Please write this legibly. This the easiest way for me to keep you updated on class assignments and your child's progress. Thank you for your support at home!