# El Paso Community College
# Syllabus
# Part II
# Official Course Description

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| **SUBJECT AREA** | **Biology** |
| **COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER** | **BIOL 2428** |
| **COURSE TITLE** | **Vertebrate Zoology** |
| **COURSE CREDIT HOURS** | **4 3 : 3**<br>**Credits Lec Lab** |

## I. Catalog Description

Continues BIOL 1413. Presents the concept of life processes and a detailed study of anatomy, physiology, development, evolution, systematic relationships, and ecology of vertebrates and related members of the Phylum Chordata. This course is for science majors and other majors interested in organismal biology. **Prerequisite: BIOL 1306 and 1106. (3:3). Lab fee.**

## II. Course Objectives

A. Unit I. Taxonomy and Systematics
   1. Describe the current schools of thought involving classification and systematics of vertebrates.
   2. Discuss the principles of vertebrate zoogeography.
   3. Describe and identify members of the following related animal~~s~~ taxa: Early Chordates, jawless fishes, gnathostome fishes, amphibi, and reptiles, aves and mammals.

B. Unit II. Vertebrate Systems
   1. Describe the processes and systems responsible for the continuity of life, including reproduction, growth and development, principles of inheritance and population dynamics.
   2. Compare and contrast the systems employed by various vertebrate animals including the integument, skeletal, and muscular systems.
   3. Describe how homeostasis is regulated by the nervous, excretory, digestion, endocrine and immune systems within the vertebrate animals (with emphasis on unique adaptations of the various vertebrates).

C. Unit III. Ecology and Biogeography
   1. Describe the relationships of animals with their environment with regard to intraspecific behavior and ecology.
   2. Describe interspecific interactions between vertebrate groups.
   3. Describe conservation and management strategies regarding extinction and extirpation of vertebrate groups.

## III. Evaluation

A. Objective and short essay exams
B. Grading will follow current El Paso Community College catalog standards.

Grading Scale:

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| 90-100 | = | A |
| 80-89 | = | B |
| 70-79 | = | C |
| 60-69 | = | D |
| Below 60 | = | F |

## IV. Disability Statement (American with/Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024)

## V. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.