



Name of School:

Name of Course: **Vertebrate Zoology**

Instructor Information

Name:
E-mail address:
School phone number:
Web page address:
Best times to be reached:

Course Description

This one-term course provides students with the detailed study of and laboratory activities involving animals with backbones and more advanced invertebrates. An emphasis is placed on the physical characteristics and adaptations, habitat, nutritional needs, lifestyles, and the diversity within each of the five vertebrate groups.

District Standards and Power Benchmarks

Standard 1: Understands and applies the principles of scientific inquiry

- Benchmark A: Formulates and revises scientific explanations and models
- Benchmark B: Understands how scientific knowledge changes with new evidence
- Benchmark C: Uses technology and mathematics to perform accurate scientific investigations and communications
- Benchmark D: Demonstrates safe handling procedures

Standard 2: Understands and applies the principles of life science

- Benchmark A: Analyzes the continuity and diversity of life in terms of structure and function of the major phyla

Course Information

This is a one-term class with Invertebrate Zoology as a pre-requisite. 0.5 credits per term will be awarded for this class. This class is aimed for college bound students and daily work will be assigned.

Course Outline/Calendar

Scientific Method/Lab Safety
Continuity of Life
Diversity of Life

Text/Other Required Materials/Resources

Buchsbaum, et al. (1987). *Animals without Backbones*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Kaskel, et al. (1998). *Biology Visualizing Life*. New York, NY: Holt Publishers.

Instructional Procedures & Support

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Classroom Management Procedures

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Assessment Plan

The students are assessed on a point system. In addition to classwork, labs, tests and quizzes, the students are assessed on: district performance-based assessments and a Spreadsheet Integration Project.

Grading System

92 – 100	A
83 – 91	B
68 – 82	C
60 – 67	D
0 – 59	F