Course Syllabus

Department: Environmental Conservation

Date: June 30, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: TAX 100

Course Name: Principles of Taxidermy

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites:

This course will introduce students to the ethics, regulations, materials, wildlife identification and basic techniques appropriate for preparing natural specimens. This gives the students a basic introduction of what a person must know to start in taxidermy.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will:

1. Practice basic taxidermy techniques. (professional competency)
2. Produce taxidermy mounts using a variety of taxidermy techniques. (professional competency)
3. Research natural positions, colors, and characteristics of living specimens to ensure accuracy and realistic mounts. (information resources)
4. Demonstrate knowledge of hunting regulations for waterfowl. (ethics/values)
5. Review state and federal taxidermy laws. (ethics/values)
6. Compare different taxidermy techniques in order to recommend appropriate techniques to future customers. (ethics/values)

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum:

This course is a requirement for students in the Taxidermy Certificate Program. It may be taken as a general elective for students in other degree programs.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course:

- [ ] writing
- [ ] oral communications
- [ ] reading
- [ ] mathematics
- [ ] critical thinking
- [ ] computer literacy
- [X] ethics/values
- [ ] citizenship
- [ ] global concerns
- [ ] information resources
III. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Students will purchase the tools and forms necessary for the preparation of the animals they choose to mount. The Conservation Department will provide handouts, supplies and any large equipment required.

Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar …):

This course is lecture and demonstration based. Applicable films are also incorporated into the course.

IV. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed):

Students will complete a project assigned in class and will be judged on the quality of their product (professional competency, information resources). They will work on mounts of both fish and small mammals, and will be graded on the quality and difficulty of the mount (professional competency, information resources). Students will be given a quiz covering waterfowl identification and the federal regulations that apply to working with waterfowl (ethics/values).

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

Fish Mounting
Taxidermy Regulations
Painting and Airbrush Techniques
Waterfowl Identification
Deer Scoring and Aging
Deer Head Capeing
Bird Skinning and Mounting
Small Mammals