Course Syllabus

Department: Environmental Conservation

Date: July 21, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: TAX 102
   
   Course Name: Fish Mount Preparation
   
   Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours
   
   Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites:

   Fish mount preparation will expose students to a variety of materials, tools and methods appropriate for the preparation of fish mounts. Each student will produce several mounts.

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

   Student Learning Outcomes:

   Students will:

   1. Develop skills in the use of taxidermy tools and equipment for the mounting of fish. (professional competency)
   2. Research natural positions, colors, and characteristics of living specimens to ensure accuracy and realistic mounts. (information resources)
   3. Demonstrate the ability to skin and mount fish in an appropriate and artistic manner. (professional competency, information resources)
   4. Reproduce the colors specific to each mounted species by airbrushing. (professional competency, informational resources)

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

Types of Course Materials:

Students will purchase the tools and forms necessary for the preparation of fish mounts. The Conservation Department will provide the supplies and air brushing equipment required.

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

This course is hands-on; however, lecture, demonstrations and class participation are an important part of the course. Applicable films are also incorporated into the course.

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

Each student will be assessed by the presentation and artistic quality of two completed fish mounts. Specific emphasis will be placed on accuracy and color blending of airbrushed mounts. (professional competency, information resources)

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

Care of Specimens
Fish Skinning
Skin Preservation
Preparation of Forms
Head Sculpture Techniques
Fin Placement and Backing
Airbrushing and Finishing

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