Course Syllabus

Department: Environmental Conservation

Date: July 24, 2012

I. Course Prefix and Number: TAX 201

Course Name: Bird Mount Preparation

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

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites:

This course will provide intensive experience in the use of tools, materials and techniques in the preparation of bird mounts. Students will prepare several bird mounts during the course.

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 birds. (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 birds in a lifelike and artistic manner. (professional competency, information resources)
4. Develop techniques to display their birds in at least two different positions. (professional competency)
5. Examine and explain the federal regulations associated with mounting waterfowl. (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
- X information resources
III. Instructional Materials and Methods

Types of Course Materials:

Students will purchase The Breakthrough Bird Taxidermy Manual and the tools and forms necessary for the preparation of bird mounts. The Conservation Department will provide the supplies and large 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 bird mounts. At least one waterfowl mount must be turned in for grading. (professional competency, information resources) Students will verbally explain the federal regulations associated with mounting waterfowl. (ethics/values)

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

Care of Specimens
Bird Skinning
Skin Preservation
Preparation of Forms
Feather Arrangement
Standing Mounts
Flying Mounts
Airbrushing and Finishing