# Introduction to Zoology - A General Overview of Animal Life on Earth

**Scott L. Gardner**
B.S. -Biology/Ecology -Oregon State University
M.A. -Zoology -University of Northern Colorado
Ph.D. -Biology/Parasitology -University of New Mexico

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Harold W. Manter Laboratory of Parasitology
Office: W-529 Nebraska Hall and 209.1 Manter Hall

Tel: 402-472-3334
Fax: 402-472-8949
E-mail: slg@unl.edu
Web: http://hwml.unl.edu and http://lamarck.unl.edu/zoo

## Who should take this course?

In general, this course is designed and is intended for first or second year students in the University. However; students from all age groups and disciplines have found that they can be successful BIOS112 (*Introduction to Zoology)*. What I mean by "successful"is that the typical student in this class gets to a different place in their thought processes than they would had the student -not- taken this course. At the end of the course, the student will have an extensive knowledge base of animal life. Usually the information that you learn and hear about during the lectures will stick with you for a long time, hopefully throughout your life!

## Attendance

I do not take daily roll. But I do notice if you make yourself known to me. I do write down names of people who participate, and these people get extra points just by being participants.

You are responsible for your own fate in the course. If you come to class every day, you will be much more happy with the way the class proceeds than if you try to play catch up. In fact, your participation in the lecture part of the course guarantees that you will learn more than if you attempt to do this own your own.

## Class Participation

As noted above, I do monitor who participates in class, the more you participate, the better you will do. Sometimes I give spontaneous points in the class and these will just be added to your total at the end. If you communicate with me via e-mail or phone, you will have a higher probability that I will remember your name when grading time comes along, and I give points for effort in the course.

**Exams and Grading**

Grades will be assigned using the plus and minus system adopted by the University. Exams are standard, consisting of multiple choice, true false, and fill in the blank. The exams will be over the material given in lecture and your book and other materials will serve as supplemental information to the lecture material. The laboratory is required and is graded separately from the lecture part of the course. I will attempt to correlate the lecture with the lab as the semester moves on.

**Paper - required -**

One paper (in the form of a species account - see web site) is to be written and turned in to me via e-mail or paper. If you choose not to do the account, then 5 points will be deducted from your overall score at the end of the course. If you choose to do the paper, then you can get up to 20 points just by writing the paper and turning it in. The reason that I insist on this is because communication via writing is so very important for professional people. So, this gives you practice for the "real world" and you will learn about animals, too! Start on your species account early, and ask for help if you need it.

Some aspects that you should consider when writing a paper to be turned in for a University course include:

1) The paper **must be your original work**. This means that it should not be copied from someone else or some other reference work and must not have been turned in as a requirement for another course.

1.1) The paper must be properly formatted with correct punctuation.

2) If you use significant parts of a published paper, such as a passage or a sentence because it is difficult or impossible to paraphrase, then you need to place the passage or sentence that you are using in *"quote marks"* and be sure to cite exactly the page numbers from where the material was taken.

3) Data and ideas must be acknowledged by citing the paper from which those ideas are derived.

If you have trouble writing, or coming up with a topic, then e-mail me, call me, or see me after class. I will make time for you either during my office hours, or by special appointment. There are also other resources that you can avail yourself of to help you succeed.

When you write your paper you must cite your sources. Here are some examples of citations:

> Gardner and de León (2002) found that tapeworms of the genus *Hymenolepis* commonly occur in the plains pocket gopher, *Geomys bursarius*.

It is important to provide the reference for the paper at the end of your manuscript.

YOU MUST FOLLOW the format:

**For a Journal Article: (example only)**

Gardner, S. L.; Pérez-Ponce de León, G. 2002. *Yungasicola travassosi* gen. n., sp. n. (Digenea: Dicrocoeliidae: Eurytrematinae) from two species of grass mice *Akodon* Meyen (Rodentia: Muridae) from the Yungas of Bolivia. Comparative Parasitology. 69: 51-57.

This can be dissected as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name or names of author(s): | Gardner, S.L.; Pérez-Ponce de León, G. |
| Date. 2002 | |
| Title of article in journal: | Yungasicola travassosi gen. n., sp. n. (Digenea: Dicrocoeliidae: Eurytrematinae) from two species of grass mice *Akodon* Meyen (Rodentia: Muridae) from the Yungas of Bolivia. |
| Title of Journal: | Comparative Parasitology. |
| Journal Volume: | 69. |
| Pages in Journal: | 51-57. |

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**For a Book:**

Gardner, S. L. 2002. Parasites of the World. Mauna Loa Press, Mauna Loa, Hawai'i. 400 pp.

This can be dissected as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name of author. | Gardner, S.L. |
| Date. | 2002 |
| Title of Book. | Parasites of the World. |
| Publisher. | Mauna Loa Press |
| Place of Publisher. | Mauna Loa, Hawai'i |
| Number of pages. | 400 pp |

**For a Web Site:**

Gardner, S. L. 2002. The American Society of Parasitologists Web Site. http://asp.unl.edu/news

Go to the papers page of the intro zoo web site for information on the papers.
http://lamarck.unl.edu/zoo/papers/