

## GRADUATE COUNCIL: NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

**Originating Unit:**

**Type of action:**      New course      Full online course\*\*

**Semester and year course will take effect:**

**New course title:**

**Appropriate computer abbreviation (30 spaces or less):**

**Course instructional methodology:**

course component types: [ugradcouncil.tcu.edu/forms/Course Component Types.pdf](http://ugradcouncil.tcu.edu/forms/Course%20Component%20Types.pdf)

**New course number:**

**Prerequisites for new course:** *include an attachment if additional space is needed*

**Description of new course (catalog copy):** *include an attachment if additional space is needed*

attached files can be seen and managed in Acrobat Pro by clicking on  
View > Show/Hide > Navigations Panes > Attachments

## **Fully Online Courses\*\***

All online courses, and /or distance learning offerings must meet State Compliance regulations as defined by specific state legislation. TCU Distance Learning is any for-credit instruction provided to a TCU student outside the State of Texas. This includes internships, clinical, video conferencing, online, or any other delivery format that crosses state lines. Contact the Koehler Center for Teaching Excellence for guidelines. Include a letter of support from the Koehler Center with this proposal.

**Supporting evidence or justification:** (For a new course, attach proposed syllabus, including course objectives, course outline, and representative bibliography.)

**Describe the intended outcomes of the course and how they will be assessed:** *include an attachment if additional space is needed*

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**Additional resources required:**

**Faculty:**

**Space:**

**Equipment:**

**Library:**

**Financial Aid:**

**Other:**

**Change in teaching load:**

**Does this change affect any other units of the University?**      Yes      No

*If yes, submit supporting statement signed by chair of affected unit.*

**If cross-listed, provide evidence of approval by all curriculum committees appropriate to both the originating and the cross-listed units.**

**Chair of Originating Unit:**

**Name:**

**Unit:**

**Signature:**

# Research in Applied Wildlife Ecology

## ENSC 70030

*Instructor:* Dr. Tory Bennett

*Semester/Year:* Fall 2023

*Number of Credits:* 1-3

*Class Location:* Class room SWR 226

*Class Lecture Day(s) & Time(s):* TBD

*Offices:* Dr. Bennett Sid Rich 226

*Office Hours:* By appointment

*Zoom ID:* Dr. Bennett 766-682-1673

*Telephone:* Dr. Bennett 765 586 5446

*E-mail:* [v.bennett@tcu.edu](mailto:v.bennett@tcu.edu)

*Response Time:* Within 24 hours

### ***Important Dates and Details***

Fall Break	TBD
Drop Date	TBD
Thanksgiving holiday	TBD
P/NC Deadline	TBD

### ***Course Description***

Field and laboratory problems for advanced students. One to three clock hours per week of laboratory and/or field work are required for each semester hour of credit, for up to three semester hours any given semester. For a maximum total of six semester hours of independent research, this course can be repeated. Note that 1 credit hour equates to 50 hours in the field or lab.

Graduate students can gain experience conducting field and lab work, analyzing data and processing samples. This represents an opportunity for students to get involved with and contribute to current research. As part of this lab group, there will be lab meetings in which students will present and discuss emerging issues in wildlife ecology (participation is required).

### ***Learning Outcomes***

1. Conduct field or lab experiments to collect data with validity.
2. Process data.
3. Analyze data using appropriate statistical methodologies.
4. Evaluate results using supporting scientific evidence.

### ***Prerequisites***

In graduate program at TCU.

### ***Instructional Methods***

All students will conduct their own field research, data data analysis, and report writing at times that are suitable for their selected individual project.

An personal schedule will be laid out for the course of the semester.

### ***Course Policies and Requirements***

The student will work with Dr. Tory Bennett or her graduate students to undertake a directed research project that meets the course description and is consistent with the research objectives of the Bennett lab.

Students are expected to:

- Participate in undertaking a research project.
- Participate in weekly or bi-weekly research meetings.
- Complete reading assignments (e.g. books, book chapters, and scientific articles) on time.
- Provide timely feedback on the progress of their research project. This should be done during the regularly scheduled research meetings and an excel spreadsheet detailing the date, number of hours and the task undertaken.
- Let Dr. Bennett know when assistance is needed.
- Either present their research to the department as a oral presentation or create a written account of the research. The latter may include a manuscript-style write-up or report depending on the extent of the research conducted. This expectation will be communicated with them prior to the course starting and again at the beginning of the course. Expected progress and schedule will be presented to them at this time.

### Grading

The course grade will be derived from two components. A spreadsheet with dates, activities conducted and number of hours will be completed and submitted regularly to Dr. Bennett.

Outcome(s)	Components	Percentage	Points
1-4	Weekly participation which includes attendance to meetings and field surveys, or lab exercises.	50	100
1-4	Quality of work	20	100
1-4	Oral presentation or written account of research	30	100

### Grading Scales

Grade	Score
A	90–100
B	80–89.99
C	70–79.99
F	0–59.99

### Grading Concerns

All grades will be posted on TCU Online as we progress through the course within 48 hours of assessment. It is your responsibility to regularly check the grades and contact the instructors in a timely manner (<7 days) if you have any concerns. Please note we cannot make any accommodations or changes once the grades are formally submitted, but we include the university's policy for grade appeals: <https://tcu.codes/policies/academic-affairs/grade-appeal/>

### ***Participation / Engagement (Attendance)***

Students must participate in the allotted time. Note students cannot receive participation credit if they did not engage, no matter what the reason.

However, if a student contacts the instructors prior to their absence, we will work with the student to determine if there are alternative options such as an incomplete or another project that they can work on to make up the time needed.

Some excused absences due to:

*Illness:* Provide documentation.

*Personal/Family Emergency:* Discuss this with an instructor as soon as possible.

*Official university activities:* Requires official class absence notice.

*Loss of internet access*

### Extra Credit

There is no extra credit available for this course.

### Disruptive behavior

Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in the field or lab. This includes, inappropriate use of computer and internet, being TARDY, leaving field early, turning up to the lab or field site intoxicated. If you need to leave class early, notify Dr. Bennett in advance.

***Student Access and Accommodation:*** Texas Christian University affords students with disabilities reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. To be eligible for disability-related academic accommodations, students are required to register with the TCU Office of Student Access and Accommodation and have their requested accommodations evaluated. Students are required to provide instructors an official TCU notification of accommodation approved through Student Access and Accommodation. More information on how to apply for accommodations can be found at <https://www.tcu.edu/access-accommodation/> or by calling Student Access and Accommodation at (817) 257-6567. Accommodations are not retroactive and require advance notice to implement.

### ***Class Norms & Netiquette***

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, discussions, and chats. If I deem any of them to be inappropriate or offensive, I will forward the message to the Chair of the department and appropriate action will be taken, not excluding expulsion from the course. The same rules apply online as they do in person. Be respectful of other students. Foul discourse will not be tolerated. Please take a moment and read the basic information about netiquette (<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/>).

Participating in the virtual realm, including social media sites and shared-access sites sometimes used for educational collaborations, should be done with honor and integrity. Please review TCU's guidelines on electronic communications (email, text messages, social networks, etc.) from the Student Handbook. (<https://tcu.codes/policies/network-and-computing-policy/e-mail-electronic-communications-social-networks/>)

### ***Technology Policies***

#### Email

Only the official TCU student email address will be used for all course notification. It is your responsibility to check your TCU email on a regular basis.

#### Course Materials

TCU students are prohibited from sharing any portion of course materials (including videos, PowerPoint slides, assignments, or notes) with others, including on social media, without written permission by the course instructor. Accessing, copying, transporting (to another person or location), modifying, or destroying programs, records, or data belonging to TCU or another user without authorization, whether such data is in transit or storage, is prohibited. The full policy can be found at: <https://security.tcu.edu/polproc/usage-policy/>.

Violating this policy is considered a violation of Section 3.2.15 of the Student Code of Conduct (this policy may be found in the Student Handbook at <https://tcu.codes/code/index/>), and may also constitute Academic Misconduct or Disruptive Classroom Behavior (these policies may be found in the undergraduate catalog at <https://tcu.smartcatalogiq.com/current/Undergraduate-Catalog/Student-Policies/Academic-Conduct-Policy-Details>). TCU encourages student debate and discourse; accordingly, TCU generally interprets and applies its policies, including the policies referenced above, consistent with the values of free expression and First Amendment principles.

### ***Academic Misconduct***

Academic Misconduct (Sec. 3.4 from the [TCU Code of Student Conduct](#)): Any act that violates the academic integrity of the institution is considered academic misconduct. The procedures used to resolve suspected acts of

academic misconduct are available in the offices of Academic Deans and the Office of Campus Life and are listed in detail in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#) and the [Graduate Catalog](#). Specific examples include, but are not limited to:

**Cheating:** Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files and listings; using, during any academic exercise, material and/or devices not authorized by the person in charge of the test; collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or laboratory without permission; knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in its entirety or in part, the contents of a test or other assignment unauthorized for release; substituting for another student or permitting another student to substitute for oneself.

**Plagiarism:** The appropriation, theft, purchase or obtaining by any means another's work, and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of that work as one's own offered for credit. Appropriation includes the quoting or paraphrasing of another's work without giving credit therefore. [If you are using Turnitin, place information about your course ID/password or state that items will be checked as part of the TCU Online assignment submission process. If you want to use Turnitin as a spot check, indicate that you may use Turnitin for plagiarism detection.]

**Collusion:** The unauthorized collaboration with another in preparing work offered for credit.

**Abuse of resource materials:** Mutilating, destroying, concealing, or stealing such material.

**Computer misuse:** Unauthorized or illegal use of computer software or hardware through the TCU Computer Center or through any programs, terminals, or freestanding computers owned, leased or operated by TCU or any of its academic units for the purpose of affecting the academic standing of a student.

**Fabrication and falsification:** Unauthorized alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves altering information for use in any academic exercise. Fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information for use in any academic exercise.

**Multiple submission:** The submission by the same individual of substantial portions of the same academic work (including oral reports) for credit more than once in the same or another class without authorization.

**Complicity in academic misconduct:** Helping another to commit an act of academic misconduct.

**Bearing false witness:** Knowingly and falsely accusing another student of academic misconduct.

## ***Support for TCU Students***

### **Campus Offices**

- Alcohol & Drug Education Center (817-257-7100, Samuelson Hall basement)
- Brown-Lupton Health Center (817-257-7938 or 817-257-7940)
- Campus Life (817-257-7926, Sadler Hall 2006)
- Center for Academic Services (817-257-7486, Sadler Hall 1022)
- Center for Digital Expression (CDeX) (cdex@tcu.edu, Scharbauer 2003)
- Counseling & Mental Health Center (817-257-7863, Samuelson Hall basement)
- Mary Coutts Burnett Library (817-257-7117)
- Office of Religious & Spiritual Life (817-257-7830, Jarvis Hall 1st floor)
- Student Development Services (817-257-7855, BLUU 2003)
- Center for Writing (817-257-7221, Reed Hall 419)
- Transfer Student Center (817-257-7855, BLUU 2003)
- Veterans Services (817-257-5557, Jarvis Hall 219)

## ***Anti-Discrimination and Title IX Information***

### **Statement on TCU's Discrimination Policy**

TCU prohibits discrimination and harassment based on age, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, ethnic origin, disability, predisposing genetic information,



covered veteran status, and any other basis protected by law, except as permitted by law. TCU also prohibits unlawful sexual and gender-based harassment and violence, sexual assault, incest, statutory rape, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, bullying, stalking, and retaliation. We understand that discrimination, harassment, and sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and we encourage students who have experienced any of these issues to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need.

- Review TCU's Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Related Conduct or to file a complaint: <https://titleix.tcu.edu/title-ix/>.
- Learn about the Campus Community Response Team and Report a Bias Incident: <https://titleix.tcu.edu/campus-community-response-team/>

### Statement on Title IX at TCU

As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep any information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I have a mandatory reporting responsibility under TCU policy and federal law and I am required to share any information I receive regarding sexual harassment, discrimination, and related conduct with TCU's Title IX Coordinator. Students can receive confidential support and academic advocacy by contacting [TCU's Confidential Advocate in the Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education office](https://care.tcu.edu/) at <https://care.tcu.edu/> or by calling (817) 257-5225 or the [Counseling & Mental Health Center](https://counseling.tcu.edu/) at <https://counseling.tcu.edu/> or by calling (817) 257-7863. [Alleged violations can be reported to the Title IX Office](https://titleix.tcu.edu/student-toolkit/) at <https://titleix.tcu.edu/student-toolkit/> or by calling (817) 257-8228. Should you wish to make a confidential report, the Title IX Office will seek to maintain your privacy to the greatest extent possible, but cannot guarantee confidentiality. Reports to law enforcement can be made to the Fort Worth Police Department at 911 for an emergency and (817) 335-4222 for non-emergency or TCU Police at (817) 257-7777.

### Obligations to Report Conduct Raising Title IX or VAWA Issues

**Mandatory Reporters:** All TCU employees, except Confidential Resources, are considered Mandatory Reporters for purposes of their obligations to report, to the Coordinator, conduct that raises Title IX and/or VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) issues.

Mandatory Reporters are required to immediately report to the Coordinator information about conduct that raises Title IX and/or VAWA issues, including any reports, complaints or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination and those forms of prohibited conduct that relate to nonconsensual sexual intercourse or contact, sexual exploitation, intimate partner violence, stalking and retaliation involving any member of the TCU community, except as otherwise provided within the [Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Related Conduct](#).

Mandatory Reporters may receive this information in a number of ways. For example, a complainant may report the information directly to a Mandatory Reporter, a witness or third-party may provide information to a Mandatory Reporter, or a Mandatory Reporter may personally witness such conduct. A Mandatory Reporter's obligation to report such information to the Coordinator does not depend on how he/she received the information. Mandatory Reporters must provide all known information about conduct that raises Title IX or VAWA issues to the Coordinator, including the identities of the parties, the date, time and location, and any other details. Failure of a Mandatory Reporters to provide such information to the Coordinator in a timely manner may subject the employee to appropriate discipline, including removal from a position or termination of employment.

Mandatory Reporters cannot promise to refrain from forwarding the information to the Coordinator if it raises Title IX or VAWA issues or withhold information about such conduct from the Coordinator. Mandatory Reporters may provide support and assistance to a complainant, witness, or respondent, but they should not conduct any investigation or notify the respondent unless requested to do so by the Coordinator.

Mandatory Reporters are not required to report information disclosed (1) at public awareness events (e.g., "Take Back the Night," candlelight vigils, protests, "survivor speak-outs," or other public forums in which students may disclose such information (collectively, public awareness events); or (2) during an individual's participation as a subject in an Institutional Review Board approved human subjects research protocol (IRB Research). TCU may provide information about Title IX rights and available resources and support at public awareness events,

however, and Institutional Review Boards may, in appropriate cases, require researchers to provide such information to all subjects of IRB Research.

Relevant reporting phone numbers are: 911 for an emergency and (817) 335-4222 for non-emergency or TCU Police at (817) 257-7777.

### ***Emergency Response Information***

Please review [TCU's L.E.S.S. is More public safety video](https://publicsafety.tcu.edu/less-is-more/) to learn about Lockdown, Evacuate, and Seek Shelter procedures. (<https://publicsafety.tcu.edu/less-is-more/>)

[TCU's Public Safety website](https://publicsafety.tcu.edu/) provides maps that show our building's rally point for evacuation and the seek shelter location. (<https://publicsafety.tcu.edu/>)

In the event of an emergency, call the TCU Police Department at **817-257-7777**.

Download the [Frogshield Campus Safety App](https://police.tcu.edu/frogshield/) on your phone. (<https://police.tcu.edu/frogshield/>)