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## BIOL 212-01, Environmental Issues: Southern Africa, Spring 2010

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## *Environmental Issues: Southern Africa - BIOL 212*

**Spring 2009**  
**Wednesday 4:00pm – 5:15pm**

Dr. Rosanna Cappellato ([cappellator@rhodes.edu](mailto:cappellator@rhodes.edu)), FJ 136E; 843-3081  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday 1:00 - 3:00pm



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*An interdisciplinary examination of the interactions between people and wildlife in southern Africa. Special attention will be given to the role of parks, transboundary parks, private game farms, and community-based conservation projects in achieving a balance between people's needs and wildlife conservation.*

### **Participation**

The class format is primarily discussion and presentation. Class attendance and participation are therefore critical to the class success! If you miss more than 2 classes, you will receive no points for participation.

### **Weekly summaries**

As mentioned, class discussion is a significant aspect of this class. To facilitate your participation, you will not only read the assigned papers, but also write a summary/critique for each one following the guidelines provided to you in Appendix I.

### **Presentation**

The first 15 minutes of each class meeting will be dedicated to individual power-point presentations. You can choose any topic related to the class, but you must discuss it with me and get my approval. A copy of your powerpoint (six slides per page) and a complete reference list should be provided to the class before the presentation. For presentation guidelines, see Appendix II.

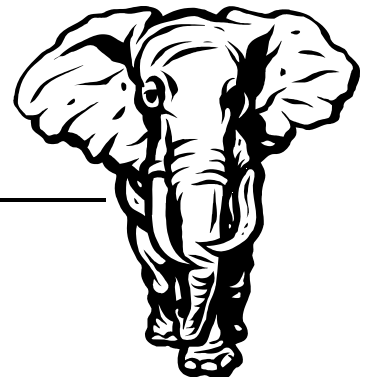
### **Exams**

The exams will be composed of essay questions. Answering the essay questions will require a good understanding of the general concepts and case studies rather than memorizing details. Taking notes and asking questions in class will help you to do well in the exams.

### **Grading**

There are 450 total points for the class divided as follows

Participation	30
Weekly Assignments	130
Presentation	30
Three Exams (80 points each)	240
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Total	430



## **LIST OF READINGS**

### **January 21**

1. *Tales from the Swamp*, by Niles Eldredge, 1998
2. *Namibia savanna woodland*, 2001

### **January 28**

1. *An Historical Perspective of Wildlife Conservation in Southern Africa*, by G. Child, 2002
2. *Chivalry, social darwinism and ritualized killing: the hunting ethos in Central Africa up to 1914*, by J. M. Mackenzie, 1987

### **February 4**

1. *Performance of Parks in a Century of Change*, by D. Cumming, 2004
2. *Park in Transition: Biodiversity, Development and the Bottom Line*, by B. Child, 2004

### **February 11- 1<sup>st</sup> EXAM**

### **February 18**

1. *The elephant ivory trade controversy*, by Grabiell, 2003
2. *African elephants and human-elephant interactions: implications for conservation*, by P.C. Lee and M.D. Graham, 2006

### **February 25**

1. *Transboundary conservation: the politics of ecological integrity in the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park*, by W. Wolmer, 2003
2. *Evaluating Transboundary Protected Areas*, by B. Ryers, 2003

### **March 4**

1. *Factors influencing perceptions of conflict and tolerance toward cheetahs on Namibian farmlands*, by L. L. Marker *et al.*, 2003
2. *Private Land Contribution to Conservation in South Africa*, by I. Bond *et al.*, 2004

### **March 11 - 2<sup>nd</sup> EXAM**

### **March 18 - Spring Break**

### **March 25**

1. *Conserving Wildlife in Africa: Integrated Conservation and Development Projects and Beyond*, by Newmark, W.D., and J.L. Hough. 2000
2. *Poverty, Development, and Biodiversity Conservation: Shooting in the Dark?* Exerpts by A Agrawal, K Redford, 2006

### **April 1**

1. *Trophy hunting and conservation in Africa*, by P. A. Lindsey *et al.*, 2006
2. *The impact of sport-hunting on the population dynamics of an African lion population in a protected area*, by A.J. Loveridge *et al.*, 2006

**April 8**

1. *The Evolution of a Community-Based Approach to Wildlife Management at Kunene, Namibia*, by B. Jones, 2001

**April 15**

1. *Postmodernism and African conservation science*, by C.A.M. Attwell and F.D.P. Cotterill, 2000

**April 22** – Conclusions, evaluations, and take-home 3<sup>rd</sup> **EXAM**

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## **Appendix I**

### **Guidelines for writing short summaries**

In your summaries you should:

**A) Explain in your own words:**

1. the key points of the paper,
2. the arguments used to support the main theses of the article,
3. its results/conclusions, and
4. its relevance to our class.

**B) Critique the article by pointing out its strengths and weaknesses, and**

**C) Write two questions for class discussion.**

The summary should be:

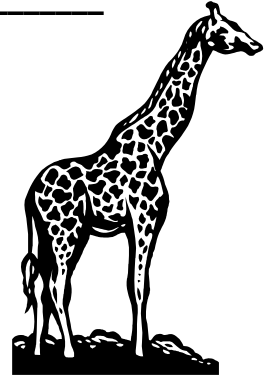
1. **Between 500 and 600 words**; word counts must be reported for each summary.
2. **Concise**: Avoid details and repetitions.
3. **Comprehensive**: Include all the points relevant in the article.
4. **Coherent**: The summary should make sense and not be a just a list of sentences.

**Each summary will be graded on a scale from 0 to 10**

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## Appendix II

### Guidelines for presentations



Your presentation should:

1. Have clear introduction and conclusions;
2. State clearly the question(s) you are addressing regarding your topic;
3. Be well organized and structured;
4. Show that sufficient and appropriate (i.e. quality of sources) material has been researched to illustrate and support your argument;
5. Be accurate;
6. Be extemporaneous: i.e. do not read from notes;
7. Acknowledge all sources;
8. Facilitate some discussion on the topic;
9. Be not longer than 15 minutes.

In addition, you must provide the class with a copy of your powerpoint presentation and a list of references.



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<http://www.nnf.org.na/index.php>

[http://www.met.gov.na/programmes/biodiversity/biodiv\\_pub.htm](http://www.met.gov.na/programmes/biodiversity/biodiv_pub.htm)

<http://www.biodiversity.org.na/>

[http://www.worldwildlife.org/wildworld/profiles/terrestrial/at/at1316\\_full.html](http://www.worldwildlife.org/wildworld/profiles/terrestrial/at/at1316_full.html)

<http://www.iiasa.ac.at/Research/POP/pub/namibia.html>

