

Outfitter Wildlife Management

OWL 110 Guiding in Outdoors (2 credit, 1 lecture, 2 lab)

This course introduces the basic concepts needed to be an apprentice outdoor guide or outfitter. Learning will take place in the indoor classroom and in the great outdoors. Students are required to participate in all camping, hiking, backpacking, and overnight excursions. Modern and traditional equipment will be used. Topics will include trip planning, safety, event preparedness, client relations, and campsite essentials. Emphasis will be placed on the basic principles of “leave no trace” and environmental awareness.

OWL 111 Hunting Education (2 credit, 2 lecture, 0 lab)

This course will certify the student to become an assistant hunter safety course instructor. Students will receive instruction in the safe handling and storage of hunting arms and ammunition, hunting laws and ethics, care and handling of game, and wildlife conservation.

OWL 112 Wildlife Business Basics (2 credit, 2 lecture, 0 lab)

This course is an introduction to the field of wildlife and natural resource enterprise management in North America. Topics will include a survey of business elements of hunting and wildlife enterprises including hunting as a source of revenue through leases, habitat consulting, and outfitting. Students will learn how guiding, client relations, and outdoor knowledge management translate into successful business operations. The course will also cover brand management, professional relations, and provide an opportunity to explore outdoor recreation based tourism and recreational real estate.

OWL 113 Firearms Safety (2 credit, 1 lecture, 2 lab)

This course includes structured hands-on activities in the areas of firearm regulations and safety with an emphasis on use in the wildlife management industry. Students will learn hunting safety, techniques, and ethics for firearm use. Topics include identification and safe handling of firearms, firearm owner responsibility, personal preparedness, and wildlife harvest techniques using firearms. The student will work with pistols, rifles, and shotgun on a range and in a field situation.

OWL 114 Bow Hunting Safety (2 credit, 1 lecture, 2 lab)

This course includes structured hands-on activities in the areas of archery and bow hunting with an emphasis on use in the wildlife management industry. Students will learn hunting safety, techniques, and ethics for bow hunting equipment. Topics include identification and safe handling of bow hunting implements, bow hunter responsibility, personal preparedness, and wildlife harvest techniques using bow hunting equipment. The student will learn how to handle and use archery equipment in a safe environment. The students will develop an understanding of hunting safety and techniques using archery and bow hunting equipment.

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OWL 115 Freshwater Fishing (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course includes discussion and structured hands-on activities in the area of freshwater fishing. Topics include an introduction to the sport, as well as techniques, regulations, equipment, and styles to catching and harvesting freshwater fish. Students will learn the proper way to manage fisheries, and the environmental factors that affect fish, their habitat, and the sport of freshwater fishing.

OWL 116 Big Game Management (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course is designed to give students training for professional guiding and hunting as it relates to deer and other large game. The student will be working with firearms, archery equipment, food plot equipment, and other equipment for big game management.

OWL 117 Waterfowl Management (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course is designed to train students in the areas of waterfowl management, hunting, and guiding. Students will learn about species of waterfowl, wetlands and habitats of waterfowl, techniques for managing waterfowl populations, and rules and regulations. The student will be working with shotguns, decoys, calls, and other field equipment for waterfowl hunting.

OWL 118 Upland Game Management (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course is designed to give students training for professional guiding and hunting as it relates to turkey and other small game. The students will work with firearms, archery equipment, decoys, calls, and other equipment for hunting of turkey and small game, such as rabbits and squirrels.

OWL 119 Exotic Wildlife (3 credit, 3 lecture, 0 lab)

This course includes discussion and structured hands-on activities in the area of exotic wildlife hunting in both mammals and birds. Topics include an introduction to exotic species, exotic game habitat, hunting techniques, and exotic game regulations. Students will be studying the difference between native and exotic game along with their traits. Students will learn techniques to properly hunt these species.

OWL 131 Habitat and Food Plot Installation (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course is designed to familiarize students with major topics in wildlife habitats and nutrition. Students will gain knowledge of basic wildlife management principles as they apply to habitats and areas/food plots that support wildlife species. Topics include basic nutritional principles, concepts of wildlife ecology, population dynamics, and wildlife management strategies.

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OWL 132 Range Management (3 credit, 2 lecture, 2 lab)

This course is designed to introduce students to the principles of ecology and management of wildlife populations. Students will be introduced to the characteristics of and factors affecting wildlife populations, as well as techniques and theories of management. Topics covered will include population survey methodology, animal capture and handling, harvest analysis of game species, habitat assessment, range improvement, as well as study and recognition of the more common wildlife diseases.

OWL 133 Wildlife Outfitter Media Production (3 credit, 3 lecture, 0 lab)

This course introduces the basic concepts needed to produce wildlife photography and videography. Topics will include care and handling of cameras, basic camera functions, camera frames/zoom/pans, editing videography and photography, storyline development, product implementation in media, and media distribution. Students will learn to film/photograph, edit the film/photograph, create a storyline with media, implement products into the story, and distribute the media on various platforms.

OWL 135 Outfitter Wildlife Internship (5 credit, 0 lecture, 25 lab)

Provides students with practical work experience in which to gain a better understanding of the field of outfitter wildlife management. The internship creates an important occupational experience in areas of leadership, organizational dynamics, program planning/oversight and day-to-day operations. Internship sites may include selected governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and/or outfitter/wildlife businesses. This requires a minimum of 75 internship clock hours per hour of college credit. This course may be offered as variable credit and repeated three times.