DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCES
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http://wfsc.tamu.edu/jpackard/behavior/wfsc422/

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

ETHOLOGY WFSC 422/632

Technical Help

Contents:

1. Getting started on the website
2. BLOG
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1. Getting started on the website:

http://wfsc.tamu.edu/jpackard/behavior/wfsc422/wfsc422home.html

You will need:

1) A fast Internet connection (see TIPS)
2) Adobe Reader: this opens the PDF documents in the top menu bar and the binders of course materials. You will need to download the free Adobe Reader 9+.
3) Microsoft Office or Open Office (free download)
4) Java to participate in chats on elearning
5) QuickTime or VLC player for video clips in lecture notes

2. BLOG:

http://blogs.tamu.edu/jmpackard/wfsc-422-introduction/

1) On this introductory page you will find several links and an explanation
2) Go to the [weekly blogs] to introduce yourself and read the archived dialogue about preparing for exam questions
3) For tips on the Inquiry assignments, go to Predator or Prey

3. e-Learning:

1) If you've never used e-Learning, use the tutorial at http://elearning.tamu.edu/elearning-orientation/
2) You will need to update your Java to participate in chats.
3) Perform a browser check-up to ensure compatibility between your computer and the e-Learning website.
4) Use e-Learning to e-mail Dr. Packard or your classmates through the e-mail tool
5) The calendar tool will remind you of what assignments are due each day
6) Your grades will be updated and posted here so that you can keep track of your progress

TIPS:

If you have a slow Internet connection, email instructor for access to a shared folder on [dropbox] so you can download pdf binders and work offline. You will need free [adobe reader].

Adobe Reader Upgrade at:
http://get.adobe.com/reader/?promoid=HRZAC

Open Source Video Player
http://www.videolan.org/vlc/

TIPS:

If e-Learning is still not working after you've followed all the "Help" link suggestions, call the University Help Desk at 979-845-8300

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4. Library:

Web Of Science Go to the TAMU Library: http://library.tamu.edu/

1) From the [FIND] menu (left column), scroll on [Popular Databases] to click on [Web of Science] TIP: it is in the right column, second from the bottom
2) If you have not previously signed on to your Aggie account this will take you to a page with a drop down window that asks what campus you would like to access; select the option that includes "College Station"
3) When the interaction window asks for your sign on information, type in your TAMU NetID and password
4) Type in keywords and "search"
5) Select a paper and review the abstract
6) To gain full access to the paper use the [Find Text @TAMU] options; note that it will open in your browser bar, not window
7) You may directly export your checked references to a program that helps you sort references and cite as you write, such as EndNote

You can request articles and some monographs through the library via "get it for me"

1) If you locate a paper through Web of Knowledge and are logged in through the library but the University does not have access to it, you may request it by selecting the "get it for me" button and then submitting the request on the next page.
2) If you need a paper that you have not located through the library, you may still request it select the "get it for me" option on the library homepage, input as much information as you have available, and submit the request.

5. Additional Technical Help:

For help with technical problems call the CIS help desk at 979-845-8300

For help with problems related to accessing course materials, call the instructor at 979-845-1465; you may request a CD with course materials to work offline

For help organizing the information you find on scientific sources for BLOG/Exam, use Endnote (reference database software)

1) Go to https://software.tamu.edu and select "begin session"
2) Select your campus affiliation from the dropdown menu
3) Log in with your Net ID, select "student" from the next menu, then select your campus, select your term of enrollment, and agree to the terms of service
4) Select "endnote" from the list of available software and proceed to the payment page (TIP: endnote is free and will be e-mailed to you, but you will still need to enter payment information on this page)
5) Once you confirm your order, Endnote will be e-mailed to you.

TIPS:

This icon represents sources that are NetID accessible only.

When using Web of Science, you may search within your results by entering an additional keyword in the search box to the left of the screen. For example, if you search "wolf" and have 1,457 results, you could then enter "gray" in the box, and only the references with the words "gray wolf" would be displayed.

When you find an article you like, try using the [find similar] or [cited by] features to build a marked list. You can download to Endnotes the references that you click on each page, or move to the next page and your green checks will automatically turn red indicating they are on the marked list. Download the marked list to Endnotes.

Endnotes is free for students: https://software.tamu.edu

An Endnotes file of resources for the Inquiry Projects is kept current in the shared [dropbox] folder.

TIPS:

For Distance Ed students, try out the elearning chat line before the first chat, so you have time to troubleshoot if your computer has a firewall or Java issue.