The University of the South Pole

PENG201 Penguin Husbandry

Version 1.3
Last Updated 1/5/2005

Introduction

This course outline contains important information for all students enrolled in PENG201 Penguin Husbandry. Please read all of this document. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Course Coordinator. Additional information and notices will be provided through the course Blackboard site http://blackboard.usp.edu.aq and to your USP email address, you are expected to check both regularly.

Course Description

This course introduces students to the care and handling of penguins in the Antarctic environment. It involves both a practical and theoretical exploration of the development and lifecycle of penguins. Students will have the opportunity to work with penguins of different species.

Course Objectives

The objectives of this course are to:

a) Enhance student knowledge of penguin species present in Antarctica;

b) Provide students with an understanding of the needs of penguins and the ability to assess the health and needs of penguins;

c) Provide students with techniques for dealing with common penguin requirements.

Course Skills

On completion of the course, you are expected to demonstrate the following skills:

✳ Ability to identify common penguin species.

✳ Ability to identify and describe common health problems encountered when raising and caring for penguins.

✳ Ability to construct a plan for managing populations of penguins taking into account a range of penguin requirements.

✳ Ability to analyse a penguin population and identify priorities for care and management.

✳ Understanding of the current literature and research on penguin husbandry.

✳ Understanding of key techniques and equipment needed to manage penguin populations.

Prerequisite: ANTA111 Antarctic Safety or approved substitute

Course Sessions and Communications

Dates: 12 July to 15 October 2005
Times: 10.00 am to 1.00 pm, Thursday (some sessions online)
Venue: LT001
Co-ordinator:Dr Stephen Marshall (Course Co-ordinator)
                   Rm. 105, Shackleton House
                   Tel: +644 463 5205, e-mail: Stephen.Marshall@usp.edu.aq
                   Office hours: By appointment

Course Website and Notices:

All material and notices relating to this course will be provided in class or distributed via the Blackboard LMS. The URL is: http://blackboard.usp.edu.aq

Recommended Text

There is no recommended textbook for this course.

Additional Equipment

Standard Antarctic survival equipment will be required for participation in all practical sessions.

Learning Resources

References: A list of reference material is made available through the Blackboard course website. There is also a Library resource page for this course here: http://www.usp.edu.aq/Library/Resources/PENG201/

Computer Labs: This course requires that you have access to the Internet in order to participate in sessions and complete required assessment activities. Enrolment in this course entitles you to use the USP computer labs. If you wish to use University computer labs, you must sign and return the relevant terms of use agreement.

Assessment:

Course assessment will be based on:

		Due Date
Class Discussion Contributions	20%	Weekly
Essay One Outline and Proposed Bibliography	5%	2 August
Essay One	20%	20 August
Essay Two Outline and Proposed Bibliography	5%	8 October
Essay Two	30%	15 October
Practical Work	20%	15 October
TOTAL	**100%**	

Assessment Design

As part of the course, there is an expectation that you will engage in both the practical and theoretical aspects of penguin care and husbandry. Assignment 1 is an ongoing piece of assessment designed to promote your interaction with the research in the field.

Assessment 1: Class Discussion Contributions   (20%) Due: Weekly

This piece of assessment involves producing a summary of the key issues found in each weekly topic as a basis for class discussions that week. The purpose of the assessment is to: a) development an awareness of, and b) provide experience with evaluating, important issues, current research and trends in the field.

Assessment 2: Essay One Outline and Proposed Bibliography   (5%) Due: 2 August

This assessment involves a short 2-page proposal that a) outlines the essay you propose to write; and b) provides a brief overview of the source material you will reference. The proposal is an opportunity to obtain feedback on the essay plan and the source materials you intend to use.

Assessment 3: Essay One   (20%) Due: 20 August

On the basis of an approved proposal, assessment 3 involves writing a 2 - 2,500 word essay on a topic selected from the first six weeks of the course. The purpose of the assessment is to demonstrate your understanding of the key issues and techniques of penguin husbandry.

Assessment 4: Essay Two Outline and Proposed Bibliography   (5%) Due: 7 October

This assessment involves a short 2-page proposal that a) outlines the essay you propose to write; and b) provides a brief overview of the source material you will reference. The proposal is an opportunity to obtain feedback on the essay plan and the source materials you intend to use.

Assessment 5: Essay Two   (30%) Due: 15 October

On the basis of an approved proposal, assessment 5 involves writing a 2 - 2,500 word essay on a topic selected from the second six weeks of the course. The purpose of the assessment is to demonstrate your understanding of the penguin anatomy and key health issues.

Assessment 6: Practical Work   (20%) Due: 15 October

During the course you will participate in a series of practical exercises, including simulations. For each weeks work you are expected to produce a short report outlining what was done and your findings. At the end of the course you will submit all of these reports along with a short reflective essay on the practical aspects of penguin husbandry.

Late Penalties

In fairness to other students, work submitted after the deadline will incur a 10% penalty (of the marks achieved for the assignment) for each day late (prior to 12pm). In the event of bereavement or prolonged illness affecting your ability to meet the deadline, you should discuss your situation with the Course Co-ordinator. You must verify your claim, e.g., produce a medical certificate. Extensions will only be granted under these conditions. No extension is possible based on a student's workload.

Assignment Submission

Your assignments will be submitted using either email or the assessment submission facility in Blackboard based as per the instructions for the individual assignments. An explanation of how this works for each piece of assessment will be provided closer to the time of submission.

All work must be submitted electronically and will be processed through an electronic plagiarism detection facility to detect misconduct. Please see the notes on plagiarism below.

Scaling

To obtain a fair distribution of marks relative to assignment difficulty, scaling of marks may be employed on some or all assessments.

Mandatory Requirements and Workload

You are expected to attend all course sessions and workshops, read assigned materials, and contribute to discussions and presentations. For each week of the course, plan to spend two to three hours in class including the practical work with penguins, one to two hours preparing for class and at least 5 – 7 hours working online. Additional time may be required for completion of course assignments.

Attendance

As you are required to participate in all class presentations, attendance is required for all sessions.

Mandatory Requirements

To pass the course, you must submit all pieces of assessment and gain a weighted average of 50% across all assignments. To obtain a fair distribution of marks relative to assignment difficulty, scaling of marks may be employed on some or all assessments.

PENG201 Schedule – Trimester II 2005

	Week	Topic
Week 1	15 July	The art and science of penguin care and husbandry
Week 2	22 July	Basic penguin lifehistory
Week 3	29 July	Identification of penguin species [Practical session]
Week 4	5 August	Penguin diet and feeding [Practical session]
Week 5	12 August	Penguin handling and grooming [Practical session]
Week 6	19 August	Penguin management
		Mid Trimester Break 22 August – 5 September
Week 7	9 September	Introduction to penguin anatomy
Week 8	16 September	Common penguin ailments [Practical session]
Week 9	23 September	Penguin psychosis and mental ailments [Practical session]
Week 10	30 September	Penguin breeding [Practical session]
Week 11	7 October	Penguin predators
Week 12	14 October	Threats to the penguin environment

GETTING HELP

Support for any aspect of your studies is available to students from 7am to 11pm every day through the Student Services Level 2, Robert Scott Building, or phoning 555-6080, email student_support@usp.edu.aq. Please provide your USP student ID number when emailing problems. You can also use the web form available at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Online/Support/ to request assistance.

Co-ordinator: Dr Stephen Marshall (Course Co-ordinator)
Rm. 105, Shackleton House
Tel: +644 463 5205, e-mail: Stephen.Marshall@usp.edu.aq
Office hours: By appointment

Librarian: George Stock
e-mail: George.Stock@usp.edu.aq

LEARNING ONLINE

Most USP courses complement face to face sessions with online resources including communication facilities. In order to get the most out of your courses you need to use these efficiently and effectively. The University provides a checklist for learning online at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Online/Checklist/ which you should use to ensure that you have the basic skills needed - assistance is available from Student Services, Level 2, Robert Scott Building, or phoning 555-6080, email student_support@usp.edu.aq.

Technical Support

Support is available to students from 7am to 11pm every day through the Student Services Level 2, Robert Scott Building, or phoning 555-6080, email student_support@usp.edu.aq. Please provide your USP student ID number when emailing problems. You can also use the web form available at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Online/Support/ to request assistance.

Tips for Succeeding Online

When studying online you need to apply the same discipline to your work as you would apply when attending classes. The following tips will help you succeed in your studies:

✳ Plan to spend the number of hours recommended by your lecturer regularly each week on your studies
✳ Use the supplied course timetables and deadlines to set personal goals and plan for the requirements of the assessed work
✳ Create a study environment that allows you to focus on coursework and avoid distractions
✳ Use the communication facilities provided to share your experiences with other students and the staff and to get assistance in understanding course materials
✳ Check Blackboard and your USP email account regularly for important course and University notices
✳ When communicating with others in your courses, don't be afraid to share your ideas but take the time to make sure they are communicated clearly
✳ Consistent work on your courses is far more likely to succeed than episodes of hard work interspersed with gaps of no work
✳ Have a reliable Internet connection and computer in place before the course begins
✳ If you temporarily lose access to the Internet continue working on other aspects of the course while resolving the problem

Communicating Online

Most USP courses provide an online discussion forum through the Blackboard course website. These are a great place for asking questions relating to your course as they provide a means for sharing the answers for everyone's benefit. Please don't use the discussion forums to discuss personal or private matters - use the USP email account to speak directly with your lecturers or other students.

Communicating online is a skill which you will need to practice in order to become proficient. There are guidelines for communicating online ('netiquette') which will assist you in effective and polite online conversations. You can find more information on Netiquette here: http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc1855.html. Please note that all online communications by staff and students are governed by the University policies and statutes.

Discussion forums are intended to assist all of the students in their achieving the objectives of the course. You are encouraged to post questions and to contribute in discussing and answering the questions raised by other students and the lecturers. Online discussions complement and support the materials provided online and through lectures and may contribute to assessment, including examination questions. Discussions consist of individual contributions or 'posts' which are organised into 'threads' chronologically as responses are made to particular posts. When posting you should consider whether your post is a response to an existing post or is a new topic which should start a new thread. Your posts should always have a clear subject that identifies what is being discussed, don't be afraid to change the subject if a discussion moves away from the original subject or if the subject provided is not clear. All discussion contributions will remain available for the duration of the course so take your time to think through what you are saying and remember to refer to older conversations when revising or studying.

ASSESSMENT 1: Class Discussion Contributions

Value: 20%
Due Date: On Blackboard Monday 5pm weeks 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9
Length: 1 page (approx 300 words)

Assessment Requirements
This piece of assessment involves producing a summary of the key issues found in each weekly topic as a basis for class discussions that week. The purpose of the assessment is to: a) development an awareness of, and b) provide experience with evaluating, important issues, current research and trends in the field.

You are asked to write a single page analysis and post it on Blackboard by 5pm Monday of the weeks listed and then participate in discussion both online and in class. For weeks 3 and 6, half of the marks will come from the quality of your contributions online. You must contribute at least one thoughtful post a day during those weeks.

Marking Criteria

Accuracy and completeness (/2)
✳ clearly identifies key issues for the weekly topic
✳ well written, clear and with a balance between simplicity and technical sophistication

Analysis (/3)
✳ conclusions drawn are well supported and referenced
✳ demonstrated understanding of key ideas and their impact
✳ online contributions to discussion thoughtful and founded on the research

ASSESSMENT 2: Essay One Outline and Proposed Bibliography

Value: 5%
Due Date: 2 August
Length: 2 pages (approx 500-800 words)

Assessment Requirements
This assessment involves a short 2-page proposal that a) outlines the essay you propose to write on a topic selected from the first six weeks of the course; and b) provides a brief overview of the source material you will reference. The proposal is an opportunity to obtain feedback on the essay plan and the source materials you intend to use.

At a minimum your proposal should deals with the following:
✳ The topic you will focus on;
✳ The important aspects of the topic you will focus on;
✳ A brief overview of the position you will take on each aspect;
✳ A list of the key sources of information you intend to use.

Marking Criteria
Completeness (/2.5)
✳ clearly states topic being discussed
✳ key aspects for discussion clearly identified and logically selected

Quality of document (/2.5)
✳ document is clear and concise
✳ ideas are well articulated
✳ grammar and spelling free of errors
✳ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

ASSESSMENT 3: Essay One

Value: 20%
Due Date: 20 August
Length: 2000 - 2500 words

Assessment Requirements

On the basis of an approved proposal, assessment 3 involves writing a 2 - 2,500 word essay on a topic selected from the first six weeks of the course. The purpose of the assessment is to demonstrate your understanding of the key issues and techniques of penguin husbandry.

Marking Criteria

Completeness (/2.5)
✳ clearly states topic being discussed
✳ key aspects for discussion clearly identified and logically selected

Analysis (/15)
✳ conclusions drawn are well supported and referenced
✳ demonstrated understanding of key ideas and their impact
✳ literature chosen is authoritative and appropriate to the topic

Quality of document (/2.5)
✳ document is clear and concise
✳ ideas are well articulated
✳ grammar and spelling free of errors
✳ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

ASSESSMENT 4: Essay Two Outline and Proposed Bibliography

Value: 5%
Due Date: 7 October
Length: 2 pages (approx 500-800 words)

Assessment Requirements

This assessment involves a short 2-page proposal that a) outlines the essay you propose to write on a topic selected from the second six weeks of the course; and b) provides a brief overview of the source material you will reference. The proposal is an opportunity to obtain feedback on the essay plan and the source materials you intend to use.

At a minimum your proposal should deals with the following:
✳ The topic you will focus on;
✳ The important aspects of the topic you will focus on;
✳ A brief overview of the position you will take on each aspect;
✳ A list of the key sources of information you intend to use.

Marking Criteria

Completeness (/2.5)
✳ clearly states topic being discussed
✳ key aspects for discussion clearly identified and logically selected

Quality of document (/2.5)
✳ document is clear and concise
✳ ideas are well articulated
✳ grammar and spelling free of errors
✳ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

ASSESSMENT 5: Essay Two

Value: 30%
Due Date: 15 October
Length: 2000 - 2500 words

Assessment Requirements
On the basis of an approved proposal, assessment 3 involves writing a 2 - 2,500 word essay on a topic selected from the second six weeks of the course. The purpose of the assessment is to demonstrate your understanding of the key issues and techniques of penguin husbandry.

Marking Criteria
Completeness (/5)
✴ clearly states topic being discussed
✴ key aspects for discussion clearly identified and logically selected

Analysis (/20)
✴ conclusions drawn are well supported and referenced
✴ demonstrated understanding of key ideas and their impact
✴ literature chosen is authoritative and appropriate to the topic

Quality of document (/5)
✴ document is clear and concise
✴ ideas are well articulated
✴ grammar and spelling free of errors
✴ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

ASSESSMENT 6: Practical Work

Value: 20%
Due Date: 15 October
Length: 1000 words per practical session and 1000 words of reflection

Assessment Requirements
During the course you will participate in a series of practical exercises, including simulations. For each weeks work you are expected to produce a short report outlining what was done and your findings. At the end of the course you will submit all of these reports along with a short reflective essay on the practical aspects of penguin husbandry.

Marking Criteria (Practical reports)
Completeness (/2)
✴ clearly states area of work being addresses
✴ key techniques and equipment identified along with any issues

Methodology (/7.5)
✴ clear description of what was done

Analysis (/7.5)
✴ demonstrates understanding of what was done and why
✴ conclusions drawn are well supported and referenced

Quality of document (/3)
✴ document is clear and concise
✴ ideas are well articulated
✴ grammar and spelling free of errors
✴ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

Marking Criteria (Reflection)
Analysis (/7.5)
✴ identification of key techniques and equipment needed to manage penguin populations
✴ demonstrated understanding of how the different areas of practical work are linked
✴ conclusions drawn are well supported and referenced
✴ demonstrated understanding of key techniques and their impact

Quality of document (/3)
✴ document is clear and concise
✴ ideas are well articulated
✴ grammar and spelling free of errors
✴ bibliography provided in clear and consistent format (APA or similar)

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly those regarding assessment and course of study requirements, and formal academic grievance procedures contained in the statutes in the USP website http://www.usp.edu.aq/policy/.

The University Statute on Student Conduct and Policy on Staff Conduct

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps can be taken if there is a complaint. For queries about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor. This Statute is available in the Faculty Student Administration Office or on the website at: http://www.usp.edu.aq/policy/StudentConduct. The policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the USP website at: http://www.usp.edu.aq/policy/StaffConduct

Academic Grievances

If you have any academic problems with your paper you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned or, if you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the Associate Dean (Students) of your Faculty. Class representatives are available to assist you with this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievances Statute which is published on the VUW website: http://www.usp.edu.aq/policy/AcademicGrievances

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is misrepresenting someone else's work as your own, intentionally or otherwise. You must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

* material from books, journals or any other printed source
* the work of other students or staff
* information from the Internet
* software programs and other electronic material
* designs and ideas
* the organisation or structuring of any such material.

Plagiarism undermines academic integrity simply because it is a form of lying, stealing and mistreating others. Plagiarism involves stealing other people's intellectual property and lying about whose work it is. This is why plagiarism is prohibited at USP. Plagiarism is an example of misconduct in the Statute of Student Conduct. Students who have plagiarised are subject to a range of penalties under the Statute. See the website: http://www.usp.edu.aq/policy/StudentConduct

Reasonable Accommodation Policy

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities an equal opportunity with all other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, then please contact the Course Coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services to confidentially discuss your individual needs and the options and support that are available. Disability Support Services are located on Level 1, Robert Scott Building, or phoning 555-6070, email disability@usp.edu.aq.

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person can be obtained from the Administrative Assistant or the School Prospectus

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Contacting Support
Support is available to students from 7am to 11pm (NZST) every day through the Student Services Level 2, Robert Scott Building, or phoning 555-6080, email student_support@usp.edu.aq. Please provide your USP student ID number when emailing problems. You can also use the web form available at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Online/Support/

Student Learning Support Service
Get the maximum benefit from your studies as USP with our one-to-one assistance, general workshops on effective learning techniques, English skills support including essay writing, citation and plagiarism assistance and more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Health/. Don't treat us as your last resort!

Accommodation Service
Want to know your options for accommodation? You can find information on the University Halls of Residence, options for private flatting and more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Accommodation/.

Career Development and Employment
When your studies are complete we can help you with career advice, access to job listings, assistance with preparing your CV and more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Careers/.

Counselling Service
We provide a free, professional service to help you work through any personal or academic issues that may be affecting you. Find out more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Counselling/.

Creches
Get the best possible care for your child while studying.
Find out more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Creches/.

Disability Support Services
Your studies should be unaffected by any permanent or temporary impairment. We can provide personal support and information along with eligibility requirements and more at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Creches/.

Recreation Facilities
USP provides an extensive array of indoor and outdoor recreation facilities designed to ensure your health during your studies and through the long Antarctic night. Details on facilities, professional training, sports teams and booking are available at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Recreation/. Remember - exercise is key to managing the blues during the 'long dark'.

Student Computing Service
All on-campus students are entitled to free access to a number of general and specialist IT and computing facilities on campus including access to the USP Wireless Network. You can find out information on access, restrictions on use and support information at http://www.usp.edu.aq/ITS/SCS/.

Student Finance Advisory Service
The last thing you need to be concerned about while studying is money. You can get information on student loans, budgeting advice and other assistance including emergency grants at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Finance/.

Student Health Service
All on-campus students are entitled to free or low cost professional health care from our range of general and specialist practitioners including dental and optician services. Find out more, including the hours of operation at http://www.usp.edu.aq/Support/Health/.