GE CRITERIA APPROVAL FORM

Course Number and Title: Biol 215   Animal Diversity

Faculty Member(s) Proposing Course: Steven M. Norris

Indicate which of the following categories would be satisfied by this course by marking an "X" on the appropriate lines.
Courses may be placed in up to two GE categories as appropriate. Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE courses may be placed in two categories plus the UDIGE category.

	A1: Oral Communication
	A2: English Writing
	A3: Critical Thinking
	B1: Physical Sciences
X	B2: Life Sciences
	B3: Mathematics
	B4: Computers and Technology
	C1: Fine Arts
	C2: Literature
	C3: Languages & Cultures
	D: Social Perspectives
	E: Human Psychological & Physiological Perspectives
	Upper Division Interdisciplinary GE

Lab Included? Yes __X____ No _____

Please provide a brief explanation of how the proposed course meets each of the criteria for the selected General Education categories.

Students will be introduced to foundational biological concepts and processes (evolution and ecology). With this as a framework, the diversity of animals (fossil and modern) will be explored in a systematic (phylogenetic) fashion and in historical context (both biological history and scientific history), with reference to the biological (adapational/ecological) life of the groups examined. Such a program offers numerous opportunities to reinforce and expand understanding of basic and advanced biological concepts. Live on Earth is understood to form interrelated groups of organisms, different techniques and philosophies used to resolve the patterns of interrelationship will be highlighted as appropriate. Human interactions with animal life will also be highlighted as appropriate, with conservation issues brought to the forefront whenever appropriate.

Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:
- explain and apply basic biological concepts
- describe the tenets of Zoological Classification
- identify characteristics of major animal groups
- diagram evolutionary history of major animal groups