

**Wildlife of Florida Lab, WIS 3402 L**  
**Spring 2009**  
**Birds Section**

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**Section Overview:**

This section is an introduction to common birds of Florida. This is not an ornithology class, so we do not cover many birds that regularly occur in Florida, or many of the cool things that make birds so unique. By the end of this section, I hope you will have gained an awareness and appreciation of how wonderfully diverse Florida's avifauna is!

**Section Requirements**

You need to be able to visually identify all 120 bird species presented in class, including male and female plumage (if presented) and basic and alternate plumage (if presented). You also need to know any unique life history characteristics I describe in class. You DO NOT need to know scientific names, since there is an accepted AOU checklist with standardized common names. Tests will be based on both specimens and photographs.

You need to know songs of all birds whose name is followed by an (S) in the attached bird list. Songs for all birds are available online at The Birds of North America Online, or WhatBird.com (see below). If you bring me a blank CD, I will also make the bird songs heard in class available.

You only need to know order and family if they are followed with an asterisk (\*). I follow the AOU Check-list of North American Birds, Seventh Edition, and all supplements to that checklist. Taxonomic relationships are constantly being revised, and if there is confusion with other published sources, follow the classifications in the attached bird list. This list is also published by the AOU at: <http://www.aou.org/checklist/index.php3>.

You need to know what birds are listed on the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants. This is indicated by a (T) if they are listed as Threatened or by an (E) if they are listed as Endangered. You DO NOT need to know their specific status (i.e., Threatened or Endangered). I have included birds listed by the state of Florida as Species of Special Concern (FL SSC), Threatened (FL T), and Endangered (FL E) for your interest only. You DO NOT need to know if a species is on the State of Florida List of Endangered Species, Threatened Species, and Species of Special Concern, or their specific status on that list.

I will lead birding field trips every weekend of the class. These trips are optional, but are a great way to learn the birds presented in class (and are a lot of fun). As an incentive to participate, I will draw heavily on birds seen and heard on the field trip when putting together the final test.

**Required Books:**

You need a field guide to North American birds. I recommend *The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Eastern North America*.

**Other Resources:**

*Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior*  
*The Birders Handbook*  
*Stokes Field Guide to Bird Songs*

**Internet Resources:**

The Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/>

This is an *excellent* resource for natural history, photographs, and recordings. You have full access to this site as a UF student.

Alachua County Audubon Society: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/aud/localbird.htm>

A great resource for local birding locations, field trips, and tips on rare sightings.

Great Florida Birding Trail: <http://floridabirdingtrail.com/>

Information on birding locations all over Florida.

Trip Planning Tool (Very Cool!): <http://myfwc.com/googlereports/gfbtmap.html>

Go here to find where many of Florida's unique birds can be found.

American Ornithologists Union: <http://www.aou.org/>

Organization devoted to the scientific study of birds.

WhatBird: <http://www.whatbird.com/>

This is a great resource for identifying North American birds by sight and sound.

**Class Schedule**

**February 5:** Bird Topography, Lab Specimens

**February 7:** Field Trip (optional), location TBA

**February 12:** Lab Specimens

**February 14:** Field Trip (optional), location TBA

**February 19:** Lab Specimens

**February 21:** Field Trip (optional), location TBA

**February 26:** Lab Specimens

**February 28:** Field Trip (optional), location TBA

**March 2:** Review Session

**March 5:** Lab Practical Exam

All field trips will meet in the Newins-Ziegler Hall breezeway and the van will leave at 8:00 AM sharp.

**February 5**

<b>Order</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Song?</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Anseriformes *</b>	<b>Anatidae *</b>	Wood Duck		
		Blue-winged Teal		
		Green-winged Teal		
		Ring-necked Duck		
		Hooded Merganser		
<b>Galliformes*</b>	<b>Phasianidae</b>	Wild Turkey		
	<b>Odontophoridae</b>	Northern Bobwhite		
<b>Gaviiformes</b>	<b>Gaviidae</b>	Common Loon		
<b>Podicipediformes</b>	<b>Podicipedidae</b>	Pied-billed Grebe		
<b>Pelicaniformes *</b>	<b>Pelecanidae</b>	Brown Pelican		FL SSC
	<b>Phalacrocoracidae</b>	Double-crested Cormorant		
	<b>Anhingidae</b>	Anhinga		
	<b>Fregatidae</b>	Magnificent Frigatebird		
<b>Ciconiiformes *</b>	<b>Ardeidae *</b>	Great Blue Heron		
		Great Egret		FL SSC
		Snowy Egret		FL SSC
		Little Blue Heron		FL SSC
		Tricolored Heron		FL SSC
		Reddish Egret		FL SSC
	<b>Threskiornithidae</b>	White Ibis		FL SSC
		Roseate Spoonbill		FL SSC
	<b>Ciconiidae</b>	Wood Stork		E, FL E
	<b>Falconiformes *</b>	<b>Cathartidae</b>	Black Vulture	
Turkey Vulture				
<b>Accipitridae *</b>		Osprey	S	FL SSC
		Swallow-tailed Kite		
		Snail Kite		T, FL E
		Bald Eagle		
		Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Red-shouldered Hawk		S		
Red-tailed Hawk	S			
<b>Falconidae *</b>	Crested Caracara		T, FL T	
	American Kestrel		FL T	

**February 12**

<b>Order</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>Song?</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Gruiformes *</b>	<b>Rallidae *</b>	Sora		
		Purple Gallinule		
		Common Moorhen		
		American Coot		
	<b>Aramidae</b>	Limpkin		FL SSC
<b>Gruidae *</b>	Sandhill Crane	S	FL T	
	Whooping Crane		FL T	
<b>Charadriiformes *</b>	<b>Charadriidae *</b>	Snowy Plover		FL T
		Piping Plover		T, FL T
		Killdeer		
	<b>Haematopodidae</b>	American Oystercatcher		FL SSC
	<b>Scolopacidae *</b>	Spotted Sandpiper		
		Ruddy Turnstone		
	<b>Laridae *</b>	Sanderling		
Laughing Gull				
Ring-billed Gull				
Least Tern			FL T	
		Black Skimmer		FL SSC
<b>Columbiformes</b>	<b>Columbidae</b>	Rock Pigeon		
		Mourning Dove	S	
<b>Cuculiformes</b>	<b>Cuculidae</b>	Yellow-billed Cuckoo		
<b>Strigiformes *</b>		<b>Strigidae *</b>	Eastern Screech-Owl	
	Great Horned Owl			
	Burrowing Owl			FL SSC
	Barred Owl		S	
<b>Caprimulgiformes</b>	<b>Caprimulgidae</b>	Common Nighthawk		

February 19

Order	Family	Common Name	Song?	Status
Apodiformes	Apodidae	Chimney Swift		
	Trochilidae	Ruby-throated Hummingbird		
Coraciiformes	Alcedinidae	Belted Kingfisher	S	
Piciformes *	Picidae *	Red-headed Woodpecker		
		Red-bellied Woodpecker		
		Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
		Downy Woodpecker		
		Red-cockaded Woodpecker		E, FL SSC
		Northern Flicker		
Passeriformes *	Tyrannidae *	Pileated Woodpecker	S	
		Acadian Flycatcher		
		Eastern Phoebe	S	
	Vireonidae *	Great-crested Flycatcher		
		White-eyed Vireo	S	
		Blue-headed Vireo		
	Corvidae *	Red-eyed Vireo		
		Blue Jay	S	
		Florida Scrub-Jay		T, FL T
		American Crow		
	Hirundinidae	Fish Crow		
		Purple Martin		
	Paridae	Tree Swallow		
		Carolina Chickadee	S	
	Sittidae	Tufted Titmouse	S	
		Brown-headed Nuthatch		
	Troglodytidae	Carolina Wren	S	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet				
Sylviidae	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			
	Turdidae *	Eastern Bluebird		
Hermit Thrush				
American Robin				

February 26

Order	Family	Common Name	Song?	Status	
Passeriformes	Mimidae*	Northern Mockingbird			
		Brown Thrasher			
	Sturnidae	European Starling			
	Bombycillidae	Cedar Waxwing			
	Parulidae *	Northern Parula		S	
		Yellow-rumped Warbler			
		Yellow-throated Warbler			
		Palm Warbler			
		Black-and-white Warbler			
		American Redstart			
		Prothonotary Warbler			
	Hooded Warbler				
	Thraupidae	Summer Tanager			
	Emberizidae *	Eastern Towhee			
		Bachman's Sparrow			
		Savannah Sparrow			
		Grasshopper Sparrow			E, FL E
		Seaside Sparrow			E, FL E
	Swamp Sparrow				
	Cardinalidae	Northern Cardinal		S	
		Painted Bunting			
	Icteridae *	Red-winged Blackbird			
		Eastern Meadowlark			
Boat-tailed Grackle					
Brown-headed Cowbird					
Fringillidae	Baltimore Oriole				
	House Finch		S		
Passeridae	American Goldfinch				
	House Sparrow				