

Conservation Biology, BIOL 3470 - Spring Semester, 2018 Community Engaged Learning Component

Community Engaged Learning (CEL) Coordinator –Amy Sibul

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Office Location – Biol 086, basement of the main Biology Building

Drop-in Office Hours – Tues 10-10:30am; Wed 11:00-12:00pm (*or make an appointment: I'm generally on campus Mon-Thurs 9:30-2:30*)

CEL OVERVIEW

Students will get hands-on experience in applying conservation biology skills by collaborating on a project with conservation-oriented community partners and presenting your project to the class. You will be assigned to a group of 4 students that will tackle one of these real-world projects for our community partners. (*More details on CEL Group Project handout*).

- Hawkwatch International: Kestrel nestbox monitoring for the American Kestrel Study
- Salt Lake County Open Space: Habitat Restoration at one of 2 active restoration sites the agency manages
- US Fish & Wildlife Service: T&E Species Outreach – elementary classroom curriculum development
- UT Dept of Natural Resources: Pollinator Habitat & Watershed Restoration Initiative Proposal Development

CEL GRADING – out of 250 points, 25% of your class grade

Group CEL Research Project & Presentation: Your group project has 3 graded components:

1)Group workdays: there will be a group workday on **January 30** where your group will have the whole class time to work on your project and meet with your community partner. *Attendance is mandatory and worth 40 points, and you cannot make up these points.*

2)Class Presentation: Your CEL group will be presenting the process and results of your project during the CEL Class Presentations. You will prepare a 10-minute powerpoint to present during class on **April 17 & 19** (*specific details for each project are on the CEL handout*). *Worth 125 points.*

3)Peer Review: Each member of your group will complete a peer review form (*uploaded from Canvas, filled out, then submitted back to Canvas*). This will give each group member the opportunity to comment on how well everyone collaborated, communicated, and contributed over the course of the project. **Due Apr 19.** *Worth up to 35 points based on your peer results.*

CEL ATTENDANCE DAYS

There will be 2 guest lectures where your attendance is required. These are professionals working in the field of conservation biology, doing work similar to your CEL work. It is very important that you are in class and apply what you learn to your CEL project. Each day's attendance is *worth 25 points*. Dates: **Mar 6 & Mar 27**

Extra Credit CEL Activity: The City Nature Challenge with The Natural History Museum Of Utah (NHMU)

The NHMU heads up Salt Lake City's participation in the annual City Nature Challenge, an effort to connect communities to citizen science efforts. The annual multi-day event also adds significant quantities of species presence/absence data to a national database. This year's challenge takes place on **April 27-30**, and all you need is a smartphone with the iNaturalist app loaded onto it. Find an open space near you and start collecting data with the app. Upload at least 25 observations and you will receive **10 extra credit CEL points**, as well as the sincere gratitude of the NHMU staff, and the scientists using the national database for their research! If your species ID is up to snuff, you could also identify 25 previously recorded observations instead of uploading new observations. (*Talk to Amy about this option if you're qualified*).