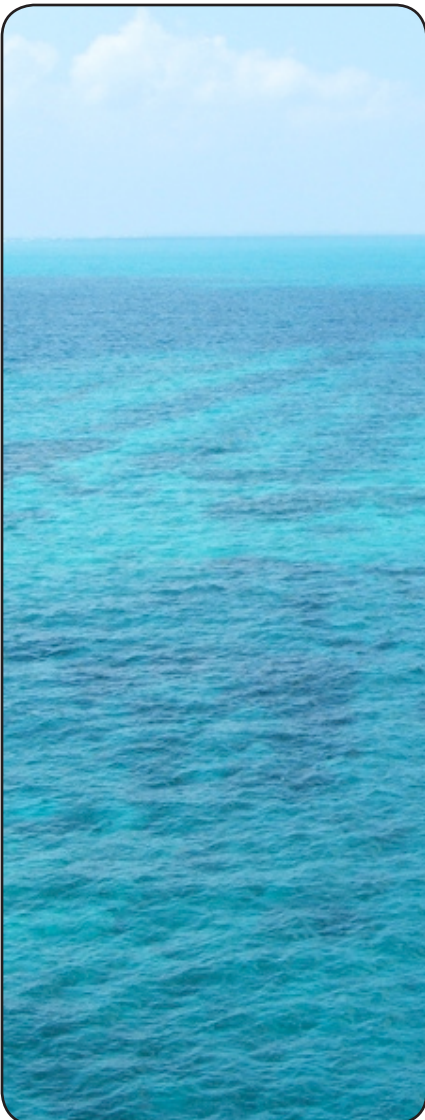




INSTRUCTED BY CODY EVERS AND ALI ABBORS  
MONDAY / WEDNESDAY 10A-12P

# AVIAN CONSERVATION

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES FALL 2008



This course aims to address historical and contemporary issues related to the conservation of birds. At the root of the class, we will ask why bird conservation is (and has been) important, as evident by the number of conservation laws protecting avian species and significant and growing national interest in bird watching. Why have we, and why should we, care about birds so much?

Yet birds are extremely vulnerable to human impacts: Habitat alteration and loss, introduction of exotic species, and hunting and exploitation have all taken a historic toll on avian species. Conservation goals often conflict with other land-use needs and cultural values. How does society weigh these conservation priorities against other land-uses and resource needs? In this class, we will:

- Review of history of conservation laws and the ways in which historic events have sculpted conservation values
- Reflect on various conservation values societies put on birds
- Explore and apply field research in conservation planning, including quantitative research methods, species analysis and habitat analysis
- Analyze conservation plans, including complexities of divergent stakeholder interests
- Discuss local avian conservation issues.
- Apply experience to conservation awareness, efforts, research, etc.

The course will feature seminar-style discussion and group inquiry, will be supplemented by field trips to local birding refuges, and requires students to apply field techniques to their own research projects.