

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY
Ontario Universities Program in Field Biology

Course Title:	Acoustic Communication: Field Methods and Applications
Instructor(s):	Dr. Scott M Ramsay
Dates:	May 6-19, 2018
Location:	Algonquin Wildlife Research Station; Algonquin Park, Ontario
Cost:	\$1400 [\$350 deposit to home university; balance due to Wilfrid Laurier University by 6 April 2018] includes accommodation, meals and in-course travel. You must arrange your own transportation to and from Algonquin Park, and pay tuition fees to your home university.
Prerequisites:	A university course in animal biology; additional background in animal behaviour, ecology, or statistics would be an asset.
Enrolment:	12 (3 reserved for Wilfrid Laurier University)
Description:	Acoustic signalling is used by a wide variety of birds, amphibians and insects in a number of behavioural contexts (eg group cohesion, predation avoidance, mate attraction and repulsion of rivals). In this course we will explore some methods of recording and analysing animal sounds. We will consider some of the functional constraints on the properties of animal sounds and signal transmission that may arise from characteristics of animals themselves (eg size and morphology), the context in which they are used, and the properties of the environment. Finally, we will also consider how animal sounds can be used to answer questions in ecology, evolution and environmental assessment. During the second week students will complete independent or small-group research projects.
Evaluation:	Seminar (based on a pre-assigned article, prepared before course): 20% Participation (seminar discussions, and field activities): 15% Field notebook: 15% Project presentation (oral presentation on the last day of the course): 10% Final written paper (10 – 15 pages; based on independent project; due 4 weeks after course completion): 40%

***\$350 Deposit is due at time of registration.

Tuition at your home institution is *in addition* to any field module costs.

Students who drop a field course should not expect a refund of any field course costs.

Students are encouraged to purchase cancellation insurance if airline tickets are required.

Students are responsible for all fees incurred by the home or host university due to any bounced cheque.