Objectives:

- To familiarize the student with the comparative anatomy, function and evolution of organ systems in the Chordates
- In addition, the student will be exposed to the importance of homologies, the role they play in vertebrate phylogeny, the usefulness of anatomical features in classification, and the functional elements of anatomical specializations

Content:

Study of the functional anatomy, evolution, and phylogenetic relationships among chordates based upon the comparative anatomy and homologies that exist between the major groups of vertebrates. Discussion of the novel features of the vertebrates and factors involved in the major evolutionary radiations.

Prerequisites/Recommended Background:

- BIOL 101/111
- BIOL 102/112

Required Texts/References:


Course Work/Expectations:

- 3 50-min lecture sections per week
- 1 four-hour lab per week, 1 field trip
- 3 lecture exams, 2 lab practical exams, weekly lab quizzes
- 1 presentation or paper

Comments: