

FISH 444: Conservation Genetics

SPRING 2023

TUES/THURS 1:00-2:20

5cr – counts for Writing (W) requirement

Join our conservation genetics class and learn how cutting-edge genomics can save your favorite vulnerable species. This class will take you on a journey through the genetic processes that happen in small endangered populations, and how they affect extinction risk. We will also explore how genomic data have revolutionized our understanding of biodiversity and enhanced our power to use genetic tools in day-to-day applications.

Some of the topics we will cover in this class:

- **Units of conservation:** species, populations, individuals, genes?
- **Just holding on:** conserving small populations until humanity sees the light?
- **Captive breeding programs:** we'll look after you until things get better – at what cost?
- **Invasive species:** they don't have any genetic effects, do they?
- **Genetic zombies:** recovered populations/species are ok, aren't they?
- **Habitat fragmentation:** anybody out there?
- **Climate change:** the double whammy

Part of this class will be a research project to identify the origin of marine turtles in South Africa. Our results will be important to reveal migratory patterns and to define conservation units in this charismatic but endangered group.



So why wait? Sign up now and become a conservation genetics superhero!