

Homework Assignment
BIO 132 – Field Ornithology

Due Date: beginning of class on April 18.

No credit for late submissions.

This is an individual assignment. You will not get credit for group submissions.

Field notebooks are an essential tool used by researchers to document data and observations while in the field. There is no substitute for recording immediate impressions of birds and their behavior while in the presence of the subject of your observation. To practice this method, you will keep a field notebook this semester to record your bird observations.

You will complete **5** bird observations meeting the following guidelines:

- Complete no more than 3 entries in any week. The idea is to space out your observations so you can appreciate changes in bird communities and bird behavior over time.
- Include sketches in each of the entries. Sketches may depict birds, parts of birds, bird behavior, habitat, or anything else relevant to any bird you observe during the observation.
- Each entry must contain the following information:
 - Date and time (and duration)
 - Name of the place visited
 - Number of people in your birding party
 - Description of the habitat
 - Weather conditions
- Each observation must last a minimum of 20 minutes.

Be detailed in your notes. Notebooks with very limited content will receive a poor grade.

As a good starting point, please review this short article: <http://www.allaboutbirds.org/take-note-tips-for-keeping-a-field-notebook/>