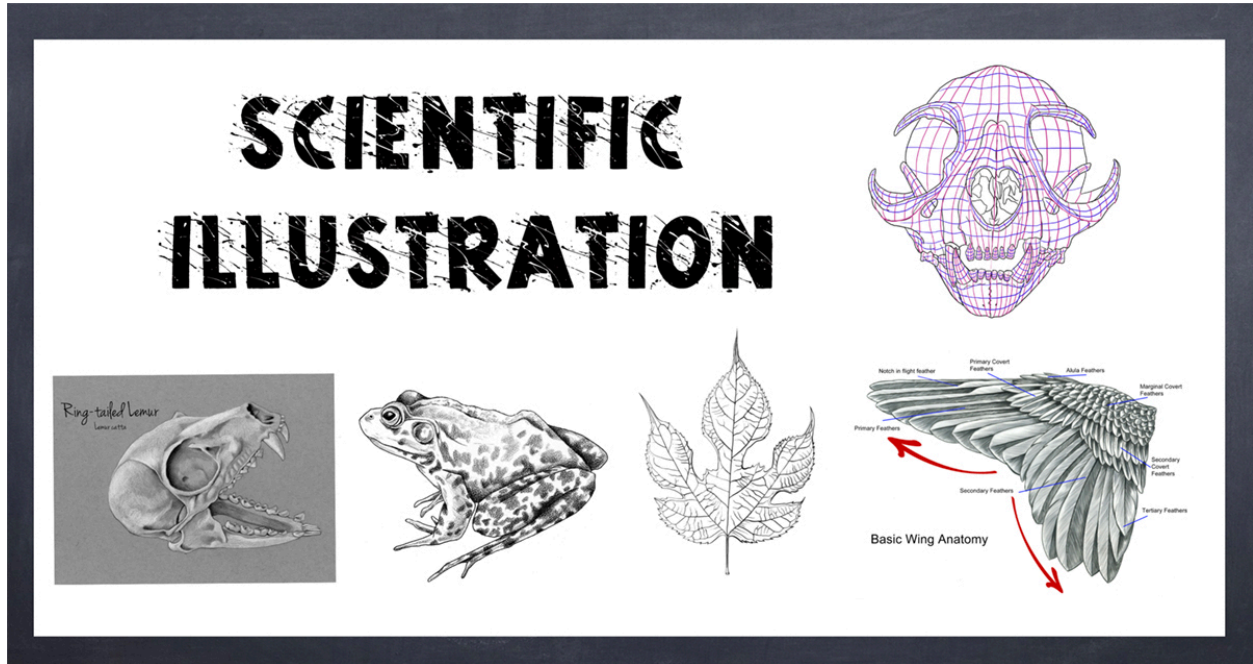


Course Title: (ART 3930c + ART 2936c) Scientific Illustration- Mindy Lighthipe

# SYLLABUS

Course Title: (ART 3930c + ART 2936c) Scientific Illustration Credits: 3



**Class Period: Class meets once a week on Thursdays- 11:45- 2:45**

## Faculty Contact Information

**Name:** Mindy Lighthipe

**Email:** [mlighthipe@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:mlighthipe@arts.ufl.edu) or [mlighthipe@mac.com](mailto:mlighthipe@mac.com)

**Note:** All email communication should be through Canvas. Use my email address only if you have an emergency and/or are unable to access Canvas email.

## Course Description

This is an introductory course to Scientific Illustration, providing students the opportunity to acquire skills of observation while illustrating a wide range of organisms. Students explore ecosystems and a multitude of species of flora and wildlife. Exploration may include plants, birds, insects, mushrooms, reptiles, fish, amphibians and mammals. Scientific Illustration offers students the opportunity to observe, study, analyze, and visually illustrate species. Working with a predetermined target audience of choice, each student creates specific illustrations for each assignment. The skills taught in this course further expand knowledge to offer career options in the biological workplace. This is a non-art major course and there are no prerequisites.

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- Instruction takes place as online video demonstrations of exercises, related to assignments.
- Slide presentations will be live on Zoom during designated class time as per the module schedule.
- Students may have readings, a written paper, and self-identified, site-specific field trips to extend these skills.
- Students create illustrations using a variety of techniques taught in the class and post to the online forums as digital photos or scans.
- Discussions and Q & A for students will include Zoom meetings and as assignment postings on the Discussion Board.

**All Assignments are submitted via digital photos or scans. They can be taken with a smart phone or computer scan.**

**Required Course Materials: Found on Welcome Page in Canvas.**

**Course objectives:**

- Familiarity with the field of Scientific Illustration and its history.
- Improvement in the observation, appreciation, and analysis of the natural world.
- Develop drawing skills and art techniques related to representational and accurate rendering of natural science subjects.
- Learning principles of illustration such as layout design, sketching, development of ideas, and effective science communication.
- Develop research techniques in the field and online to further communicate scientific accuracy in drawing.
- Understanding what a target audience is and creating illustrations suitable for a specific audience.

**Learning Activities:**A variety of learning activities and assignments are designed to support the course objectives, accommodate different learning styles, and help you to achieve the student learning objectives.

- Online presentations via Zoom

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- Individual field trips
- Videos and drawing demonstrations by instructor.
- At home studio time to create drawing assignments.
- The course requires you to work steadily as an independent researcher and contribute in the online classroom.

**Note: Due dates for all learning activities are provided in the course modules. Each module represents a week of the semester.**

**Assignments:** Class assignments are given every week under the modules tab posted under the course schedule. Due to the nature of online assignments time outside the class is necessary for completing each illustration. Illustrations will be evaluated on:

a. **Communicative Ability:** Assignments must be effective at communicating a specific scientific concept, as this is the main purpose of scientific illustration. Examples of concepts are natural processes, species identification, laboratory procedures, and form and function. You will be required to illustrate each assignment for a specific target audience. A full explanation and discussion is presented in class.

b. **Accurate Drawing:** Each assignment needs to be informative and representational. Therefore, a level of accuracy in the drawings should show the subject in proper proportion, scale, color and detail.

c. **Research:** Every assignment must be the result of a process of research and should communicate specific ideas and concepts. For this class, this process may be even more important than the final result, as the main purpose is to learn to observe, study and be able to visually illustrate different components of nature.

d. **Execution & Technique:** Each assignment must be clean and well presented. Each assignment should display the proper usage of each technique taught in the class objectives.

## **Assessments & Grading Policy**

**Grading:** Due dates are posted in each module in the course schedule.

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**Late Policy:** Assignments submitted after the due date will be downgraded 10 points for each week it is late. Assignments will not be accepted 2 weeks past the due date and will receive 0 points.

**Grades will be based on the following:**

**Class Assignments- 90%**

**Participation in Discussions- 10%**

**For each class assignment a point system is used with the greatest possibility of 110 points. Normally the highest points awarded would be 100. There is a 10 point bonus area which students may opt to achieve extra credit. At the end of the semester the grade will be based on the average of all the points divided by weekly assignments and discussions.**

**Grading Scale:** 91-100 A; 90 A-; 88-89 B+; 81-87 B; 80 B-; 78-79 C+; 71-77 C; 70 C-; 68-69 D+; 61-67 D; 60 D; 59 and below E.

See <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> (Links to an external site.) for additional information on UF grading policies.

**Please Note:** A grade of C- or below will not count toward major requirements.

## **Course Policies**

### **Class Participation**

Successful online learning requires you to actively participate in each course. Thus, it is essential that you login to your course several times each week so you do not miss anything or fall behind. Regular, active, and meaningful participation is expected of all students, and frequency and quality of participation may affect your grades. Participation is key to successful learning online. Consistent and meaningful participation in class discussions is expected, and that frequency and quality of participation will affect your grade.

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Students should plan to login to the course several times throughout the week. On average, you should expect to be on the Canvas course site, several hours per week. As for time spent for this class, (e.g., site visits, reading, sketching, doing online research and so on), you should expect to spend approximately six to nine hours per week (or for some people more)

**Changes to the Syllabus**

The faculty reserves the right to make changes to the course syllabus and course schedule. In the event that changes become necessary, students will be notified through Canvas email.