

# Biology of the Reptiles, Spring 2020 Syllabus

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## Week One

**1.1** : Introduction to Reptiles

*Introduction, Background, Status, and Context*

**1.2** : Introduction of Reptilia : Prehistory and evolutionary history of tetrapods.

*Biogeography and evolution of reptiles through geologic time*

## Week Two

**2.1** : Introduction to Lepidosaurs : What is a tuatara?

*Features and shared characteristics of Lepidosaurs*

**2.2** : Introduction to Squamata : What is a Squamate

*Features and shared characteristics of Lizards and Snakes*

## Week Three

**3.1** : Lizard (Sauria) Taxonomy and Biodiversity

**3.2** : Snake (Serpentes) Taxonomy and Biodiversity

## Week Four

**4.1** : Venom and Venomous Snake (Serpentes) Taxonomy and Biodiversity

**4.2** : Introduction to Chelonians : What is a turtle?

*Features and shared characteristics of Chelonians*

## Week Five

**5.1** : Turtle (Chelonia) Taxonomy and Biodiversity

**5.2** : Archosaurs: What is a Crocodylian, Bird and Dinosaur?

## Week Six

**6.1** : Crocodylian Taxonomy and Biodiversity

**6.2** : Reproduction

## Week Seven

**7.1** : Reptile Ecology

**7.2** : Reptile Physiology : Including Poikilothermy and Freeze Tolerance

*How reptiles deal with extreme (including freezing) temperatures*

## Week Eight

**8.1-2** : Atlanta's Reptiles



Class readings, lectures and resources available here: <http://reptilebio.amphibianfoundation.org>