

COTTON COLLEGE STATE UNIVERSITY

Panbazar, Guwahati 781001, Assam.

EXTRAMURAL COURSE

Course Name: **Introductory to Ornithology**

Course Number: EXM001

Contact hours: 16 hours

Target audience: Anybody interested

1. Overview of birds: Common birds of Assam, residential and migratory birds, aquatic and terrestrial birds, habitat types of birds, nesting sites of birds and types of nests.
2. Morphology of birds and bird taxonomy; identification:
External morphology, feather types, bill (beak) shapes and bill types, size of birds, feather colours of birds, tail feather, legs, phalanges and tarsus etc., birds' order and family and colour variation in different birds essential for identification, bird identification based on habitat types, birds identification based on group size, flying pattern and voice and calls, how to identify birds with the help of sketch preparation, bird census.
3. Bird migration: Time and cases of bird migration, winter and summer migration, migratory routes of birds in North East India.
4. Flight adaptation of birds and different systems (anatomy):
Birds' flight muscles, flying mechanism, digestive system of birds, respiratory, sense organs, reproductive system.
5. Birds behaviour: Feeding and nesting behaviour of birds, breeding display and pair formation, roosting behaviour and colonial behaviour of birds and nesting territoriality, bird communication.
6. Bird conservation and endemism:
Legal aspects of bird conservation, endangered and threatened species of birds of NE India, habitat conservation of target species, wetland conservation for wetland birds.
7. Field visit for field report:
Field visit to identify and census of wetland birds, field visit for identification of terrestrial birds and bird behavioural study.