Biology 110: Biodiversity Lab: Vertebrates

*Station 1:*

* To what **phylum** do these organisms belong?
* What type of symmetry do they exhibit?
* Name at least two adaptations these animals possess which allow them to live successfully in aquatic habitats:
* Examine specimens A and B How do the skeletons of these two animals differ?

*Station 2:*

* To which **class** do these animals belong?
* List two adaptations they have for living in the water:
* List two adaptations they possess that allow them to survive on land:
* Explain how their reproductive strategy dictates the habitats in which they are able to live:

*Station 3:*

* What is the “common” name for this group of animals? Why is this word not useful for scientific classification?
* List two adaptations that these animals possess that allows them to live away from water:

*Station 4:*

* To what **class** to these animals belong?

Look at the skins and mounted birds. Based on their physical characteristics, what sort of habitat and food sources do you think each bird might use (and why)? (Guesses are fine). ☺

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

Now, examine the feet on display. What primary function is suggested by the shape of each type of foot? (Your best guess is fine):

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

What adaptations do birds possess that allow them to be successful at flight? (List at least three)

*Station 5:*

What are the two adaptations that are unique to this class of animals?

Examine the pangolin. Does this animal appear to belong with the others in this category? Why or why not?

What structure on your own body is similar, in terms of the material from which they are composed, to the pangolin’s scales?

*Station 6:*

At this station, you will find skulls of the following mammals:

Anteater

Bear

Beaver

Cow

Dolphin

Human

Jackal

Mandrill

Monkey

Mountain Lion

Vampire Bat

Examine the characteristics of each skull, filling in the Mystery Chart on the next page as you go, and see if you can identify which skull belongs to which animal.