ZOO U

Big Cats Syllabus

SUMMER 2012

Class 1 **Introduction: Classification/Taxonomy** **July 30th**

Current Events

Behind the scenes: Tigers
Cat classification, taxonomy, and family history
Discussion: Current events

- *Project Introduction ☺*

Class 2 **Physiology** **July 31st**

Behind the scenes: Lions
'Cat-like' reflexes and other characteristics
Physiology and function
Adaptations and Niches

- *Project: Designing & Preparing/building*

Class 3 **Behavior** **August 1st**

Hunting, Mating, Territoriality, and more!
House cat vs. Big Cat

Communication

Olfactory, Vocal, Behavioral
Intraspecific vs. Interspecific
What your house cat can teach you…

- *Project: Build!*

Class 4 **Social Structure & Systems** **August 2nd**

Species differences
Family groups
Social roles

- *Project: Paint!*

Class 5 **Conservation/Cats in Captivity** **August 3rd**

Major threats, human impact (positive and negative)
Wildlife biology in action
Species Survival Plans
Animals within our collection and beyond!

- *Project: Present! 11:15am*

*Please note: This is a tentative schedule. All activities and topics are subject to change!