

ZOOLOGY 101 SECTION 13 LECTURE NOTES

Amphibians

Phylum Chordata

Subphylum Vertebrata (Craniata)

Class Amphibia: Frogs, toads, salamanders

- Move between land and water
- Part of life spent in water and on land
- First tetrapods
- All over world except Antarctica
- Represent the **non-amniote lineage** of vertebrates
- Three orders:

Order Caudata: the salamanders

1. Posses tail all through life
2. Both pairs of legs are relatively unspecialized
3. Most have internal fertilization
4. Larval stage usually aquatic, adult usually terrestrial
5. Undergo metamorphosis
6. *Paedomorphic* adults in some
7. Live in moist conditions on land or in caves

Order Gymnophiona: the caecilians

1. Wormlike in structure, burrowing animals
2. Eyes covered by skin, poor eyesight
3. Retractable tentacle between eyes for chemoreception
4. Appear segmented
5. Fertilization is internal
6. Varied larval development

Order Anura: frogs and toads

1. ~3,500 species
2. Hindlimbs end in webbed feet
3. Lack tails and caudal vertebrae fused
4. Occur mostly in moist habitats
5. Fertilization mostly external
6. Eggs and larvae usually aquatic
7. Larval stages referred to as tadpoles
8. Radical metamorphosis