Course Title:
Seminar in Resource and Environmental Geography: International Dimensions of Biodiversity Conservation

Course Number:
GEOG 6240-101

Course Description:
In this course, we will discuss the principles of conservation biogeography and how their application. The goal of this course is to enhance students understanding of science behind international treaties such as the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (or the Ramsar Conventions) and others.

Class Dates, Location, and Hours:

Dates: April 27-May 3, 2015
Hours: Mon- Fri 6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: March 29, 2015

Site Director:
Christopher Della Valle. Assistant: Sasha Ramdeen. 2189 Crystal Plaza Arcade, Arlington, VA, 22202. Phone: 703-418-4800; Fax: 703-418-2730; E-mail: apwashington@ou.edu

Professor Contact Information:
Course Professor: Bruce Hoagland, Ph.D.
Mailing Address: Department of Geography
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: (405) 325-1985
Fax Number: (405) 325-7702
E-mail Address: bhoagland@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, or by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at www.oklahoma.bkstr.com is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

2. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

**Course Objectives:**

This course will provide the student with a working knowledge of key concepts in the discipline of biogeography and how those concepts are employed to conserve plant and animal species.

**Course Outline:**

I. Introduction
II. How do we define biodiversity, species, rareness and extinction?
III. How do scientists, agencies and nations attempt to protection species?
IV. What are some of the key international treaties and organization active in biodiversity conservation?

**Assignments, Grading, and Due Dates:**

All class assignments will be submitted on D2L. When submitting assignments, I insist you use the following file name convention: yourlastname_assignmenttitle.docx. For example, if you are submitting exam 1 to D2L, the file name should be Hoagland_Exam1 or for the final essay, Hoagland_FinalEssay. All graded materials will be returned to you via email.

**Pre-course Assignment:**

Students are expected to have read David Quammen’s *Song of the Dodo* prior to the first day of class. Quammen’s book presents an excellent framework for understanding the historical development of biogeography as well as an overview of current challenges for species conservation.

**Essay and Class Presentation:**

Essay and class presentation grades are intertwined. The essay is solely for my edification, it should not exceed five pages and include at least five literature citations (not included in page count). The class presentation is an opportunity for you to share what you have learned with your student colleagues.

We will discuss essay structure and content on the first night and you will be allowed to edit your essay accordingly. The final version of the essay will be due by midnight of the last day of class.

All essays must consist of a title, the student's name, and pagination. Points will be deducted for each missing item. A draft of the essay is due before the beginning of the first day of class. Literature citations should come from pertinent sources, such as journal articles, books, technical reports, etc. I am very particular about the use of web sites. Use only the web sites of government agencies, conservation organizations, or research institutes. Wikipedia does not count as a literature source. The inclusion of figures, including maps (especially a map) and photographs, or tables is highly recommended, but should be placed at the end of the essay with a caption (Captions should consist of two or more informative sentences informing the reader of what the figure conveys and a citation for the original source of the figure). (Figures are not included in the page count). Also, be certain that the figures and tables are reference in the body of the paper. I will open a dropbox on D2L titled "essay draft" before the first day of class.
Students may select a topic from *Dodo* or choose a species from the CITES Red Book (http://www.cites.org/). Student paper topics from previous classes have included the impact of non-native species on native biota, the impact of habitat fragmentation, extinction of plant or animal species, the development of the theory of Island Biogeography, International Conservation Policy, the SLOSS debate, etc. I realize and am sympathetic to the fact that this topic is new to most IR students and I am committed to helping you choose a topic that is relevant and doable. That is why I **insist** you contact me well before the first week of class with a topic you wish to pursue. This will allow me to provide you feedback and help focus your essay topic.

The class presentation is a summary of the essay topic that you develop for your peers. Presentations can be presented as either as PowerPoint or posters. If your topic involves a particular plant, animal, and/or geographic region, please provide an illustration/photo of the organism and a map of its distribution. A presentation schedule will be developed during the first day of class.

**Exams**

Exams will consist of short essay questions based upon the topics covered in class and the readings. Exam 1 is scheduled for April 29 and exam 2 on May 1. Both exams will be take-home.

**Grading:**

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay and presentation</td>
<td>April 27, 2015</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>April 29, 2015</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>May 1, 2015</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
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POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at [http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html](http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html)

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at [http://studentconduct.ou.edu/](http://studentconduct.ou.edu/)

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: [http://www.goou.ou.edu/](http://www.goou.ou.edu/)
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Bruce W. Hoagland, Ph.D.

Education
- 1995 Ph.D., Botany; University of Oklahoma; Norman
- 1990 M.S., Ecology; Eastern Kentucky University; Richmond
- 1986 B.A., Biology; University of Louisville; Louisville, Kentucky.

Current Positions
- Professor of Geography
- Coordinator, Oklahoma Natural Heritage Inventory
- Adjunct Professor of Botany

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses
- GEOG 5113-220 Quantitative Methods in Geographical Research
- GEOG 6240-221 Seminar in Resource and Environmental Geography: Biogeography and Conservation

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
- Research: geography and conservation of vascular plants. Current research projects include use of 19th century land surveys to analyze land cover change, inventories of Oklahoma vascular plants, and phenology of trees in the Talamanca Mountains, Costa Rica.
- Teaching: Courses include Biogeography, Vegetation Ecology, and Geography of Oklahoma, and graduate seminars in vegetation analysis.

Representative Sample Publications and Presentations

Major Professional Affiliations
- Association of American Geographers
- Botanical Society of America