Course Title: 
Seminar in Resource and Environmental Geography: Natural Resources Management in a Globalizing World

Course Number: 
GEOG 6220-104

Course Description: 
This course explores the interrelationship between natural resource management and economic globalization through the analysis of the global supply chain of several key natural resources (e.g. food products, petrochemicals, precious metals, and plant and animal resources).

Class Dates, Location and Hours: 
Dates: March 17-23, 2014
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: February 16, 2014

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: Todd Fagin, PhD.
Mailing Address: 100 E. Boyd SEC 510
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: 405 325-5325
Fax Number: 405 325-6090
E-mail Address: tfagin@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, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials: 
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. There is no text book. Rather, we will read a series of articles throughout the course. See tentative course schedule for reading list schedule.

Course Objectives: 
Natural resources are crucial to our daily lives. They constitute the foods we eat, the energy we consume, and the products we utilize. While the geographic distribution of these resources is uneven, the process of economic globalization has enabled the distribution of these resources far and wide. This course aims to analyze natural resource extraction, distribution, utilization, and conservation in a world characterized by ongoing and rapid integration through the process of economic globalization.
In order to meet these goals, this class will explore the supply chain of several key natural resources. Additionally, we will explore the dynamics of economic globalization during the past 30 years and the implications thereof to the management of these natural resources. Topics to explore include, but are not limited to the following:

- Food, water, and renewable energy
- Petroleum and nonrenewable energy resources
- Precious metals
- Plant and animal resources; biotechnology
- Conservation

Seminar meetings will combine lectures with both instructor and student-led discussions. Students will form small groups (group size is dependent on student enrollment numbers), with each group selecting a topic to address. Each class session, the student group will lead a discussion of the topic at hand, both based on the course reading materials and additional information the discussion group feels is apropos to the topic at hand. Discussions should address at a minimum the geographic sources of the natural resources being discussed; how these resources are utilized locally and globally; economic and political issues surrounding these resources; and any management concerns related to these resources. Lively, spirited discussions and respectful debate are strongly encouraged. Groups and topics will be assigned the first day of class. However, students are encouraged to start formulating groups and selecting a topic prior to the commencement of the class, if possible.

Course Outline (subject to revisions as needed):

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Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

This is a graduate level seminar and the only way to succeed is regular attendance and full participation in discussions. If you must miss class for any reason, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor prior to class. The bulk of your grade is based on attendance/participation. Additionally, students are to write a final research paper on a natural resource topic of their choosing. Students will present the results of this research topic in a final presentation on the last day of the class.

Research Paper

Students will write a relatively short (10 to 15 pages, with some flexibility depending on topic, standard font and size, double-spaced) paper on a natural resource of their choosing. This can be a natural resource that was discussed during class or one of particular interest to the student. The topics can be broad (e.g. global food resources) or very specific (e.g. bananas). Regardless, each paper must explore the geographic dimensions of these resources (where are they found and why), how these resources are utilized locally (source region) and globally; the supply chain of these resources (how the resource goes from raw source to consumer); and management perspectives of these resources. Research papers are due three weeks after the end of the class (April 13, 2014) and should be submitted to D2L via the dropbox function. Unless requested by students, papers will not be returned. Rather, the instructor will utilize the comments section of the D2L dropbox to give students feedback on the paper.

Final Presentation

On the last day of class, each student will present the major findings from her/his research paper. The length of each presentation will be decided based on the number of students enrolled in class. Presentations will likely range from 7 to 10 minutes, with 5 additional minutes for discussion/questions. Though the formats for the presentations are open-ended, the instructor highly encourages the use of
visuals (graphics, maps, images, etc.) A computer will be available for student use if they wish to use PowerPoint or other presentation software.

**Grading**

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

- Class participation (discussions, attendance, etc.): 25%
- Group-led discussion: 25%
- Research paper: 25%
- Final presentation: 25%

**Notice:** Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
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 Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity

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.

Copyright

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/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Todd D. Fagin, Ph.D.

Education

- May 2009: University of Oklahoma College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
  Ph.D. Geography Dissertation: In Search of the Forest Primeval: Data-Driven Approaches to
  Mapping Historic Vegetation, Chair, Dr. Bruce Hoagland
- May 2002: University of Oklahoma College of Geosciences. Equivalent M.A. Geography
  Master’s bypassed by approval of Department of Geography Faculty. Retroactively granted upon
  completion of Ph.D.
- August 1993: University of Oklahoma, College of Arts and Sciences. B.A. Letters
- August 1992: German Language Institute, Holzkirchen, Germany. University of Kansas

Current Positions

Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma Biological Survey; Department of
Geography and Environmental Sustainability

Frequently Taught Advanced Programs Courses

Seminar in Resource and Environmental Geography: Landscape Ecology and Biological
Conservation

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest

- Landscape Ecology
- Biogeography
- Geographic Information Systems and Science
- Physical Geography
- Cultural Geography
- Natural Resources

Representative Publications and Presentations

Publications

  and Landscapes of the Past: a mixed spatially correlated multinomial logit model approach for the
  analysis of Public Land Survey Data. Geographical Analysis (currently being revised and re-
  submitted).
  and America’s National Grasslands. Focus on Geography. 55 (2): 41-47.
- Fagin, T.D. and T.A. Wikle. 2011. The instructor element of GIS instruction at US colleges and
- Fagin, T.D. 2010. In search of the forest primeval: data-driven approaches to mapping historic
  Guide. http://www.biosurvey.ou.edu/nat_veg_class.html and
Mixed School of Melon-headed whales (Peponocephala electra) and rough-toothed dolphins (Steno bredanensis) at Rota, Northern Mariana Island. Micronesica.


Recent Presentations

Representative Honors and Awards Received
- 2012: Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Grant Title: A Revised Land Cover Map for the State of Oklahoma
- 2009: Outstanding Adjunct Faculty, Oklahoma City Community College Division of Information Technology
- 2008: Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) National Spatial Data Infrastructure Cooperative Agreement Program Grant Title: The National Vegetation Standards: Implementation and Outreach for the State of Oklahoma.
- 2003: John M. Caldwell Memorial Graduate Teaching Award, University of Oklahoma Department of Geography
- 2002: NASA EPSCoR Student Fellowship Stipend, University of Oklahoma
- 2000: NASA Space Grant Fellowship, University of Oklahoma

Major Professional Affiliations
- Association of American Geographers (AAG)
- Ecological Society of America (ESA)
- International Biogeography Society (IBS)
- International Association of Landscape Ecology (IALE)