Course Title:
Seminar in Resources and Environmental Geography: Biogeography and Biological Conservation

Course Number:
GEOG 6240-222

Course Description:
In this course, we will discuss the principles of biogeography and how this knowledge is applied to species conservation. The course will open with a discussion of how biogeographers conceptualize and study species diversity. We will then discuss Island Biogeography as the intersection between biogeography and conservation planning.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:
- Dates: September 11-16, 2012
- Location: Vilseck, Germany. See Site Director for classroom location.
- Hours: Tue-Fri 6:00-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: August 13, 2012

Site Director:
Carla Miller. Phone: CIV 011-49-9662-83-2069; DSN 476-2069; Fax: 011-49-9662-83-3113 or DSN Fax 476-3113; E-mail: apvilseck@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, by appointment.

Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:
Student materials are available at the Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-7140 (outside the U.S.).


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. What is biological diversity?
III. What is the role of the physical environment on species distribution?
IV. What are species and why are there so many?
V. What is Island Biogeography and how is it relevant to conservation?

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:
1. 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.

2. Essay and class presentation grades are intertwined. The essay is solely for my edification, but the presentation allows you the opportunity to share what has been learned with your classmates.

   The essay will be five pages in length and include at least five literature citations (not included in the page count). Literature citations should come from pertinent sources, such as primary literature and books. In general, I suggest you avoid web sites other than those for government agencies, conservation organizations, or research institutes. Wikipedia will not be counted as a literature source. Figures, including maps and photographs, are highly recommended and should be placed at the end of the essay with an appropriate caption. (Figures are not included in the page count). 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 will be due the first day of class. I will open a dropbox on D2L titled "essay draft." Please title the file in this format: yourlastname_essay.docx. 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 the last day of class.

   Students may select a topic from *Dodo* or develop a topic independently. 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 that most AP students do not have direct experience in the arena of conservation science; so do not hesitate to contact me if want confirmation that a certain topic is acceptable.

   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 of the organism and a map of its distribution. A presentation schedule will be developed during the first day of class.

3. Exams will consist of short essay questions based upon the topics covered in class and the readings. Exam 1 is scheduled for the evening of September 13 and exam 2 the afternoon of September 16. Both exams will be take home.
Grading: This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay and presentation</td>
<td>September 11</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>September 13</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>September 16</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
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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. 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” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your 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
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