ENR 3500: Community Environment and Development  
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 9:35-10:55 AM  
Kottman Hall 103  
Spring 2015

Instructor: Tom Henshaw  
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Hours: Tuesday 11-3:00

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Hours: By appointment

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Course e-mail: ENR3500@gmail.com

Description:  
This course focuses on place based communities and the assets that shape those communities. Using the Community Capitals Framework we examine the nature of the community development process and approaches used in development to achieve specific community level outcomes. We explore the complexity of the community concept and address holistic approaches to evaluating community sustainability.

Objectives:  
• Define community and describe several theoretical approaches to understanding the nature of community formation.  
• Explain what is meant by community development.  
• Demonstrate understanding of the forms of capital comprising the Community Capitals Framework.  
• Collect and describe community level data relating to measures of community sustainability.  
• Apply knowledge of community structure and sustainability in evaluating the sustainability of communities based on demographic profiles.

Course Content:  
The course is divided into three (almost) equal portions. We start out by defining “community” and “development”- I use the quotes here because as you will see this is no easy task. In this section we are introduced to the Community Capitals Framework, a tool that is used to categorize the assets within a community in order to assess the strengths (and weaknesses) of each community. We will also begin the process of gathering and interpreting data related to community sustainability. The second section is dedicated to community theory. Theory is the foundation of analysis in the social sciences, without it there is no basis from which to classify our observations or make predictions about those things we don’t yet know. In this section we look for a basic understanding of the way we (mostly sociologists) have described the foundation and function of community in the past and how that understanding might inform our approach to building community sustainability in the future. Finally, we discuss community sustainability itself including the development of practical measures of sustainability and circumstances that may change the sustainability dynamics in a community.
Required Reading:

There is one required text for this class. In addition, assigned readings in the form of journal articles and popular media will be made available via the class Carmen page.


Course Requirements and Grading

Classroom time will include lectures, guided discussion, active learning exercises, presentation of supplemental audio-visual material, and small group project work. Lectures will focus on reviewing and enhancing understanding of the day’s topic, including the introduction of supplemental content provided through lectures or guest presentations. Assignments to be completed outside of class will facilitate in-class work.

Grades will be assigned according to student performance on several different assignments. The breakdown of each assignment’s weight as a part of the final grade is as follows. Percentages are taken from 500 total points available in the class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Exams</td>
<td>170 pts</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Sustainability Project</td>
<td>125 pts</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100 pts</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation and Breakout Sessions</td>
<td>55 pts</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes: 6 @ 10 pts each -lowest</td>
<td>50 pts</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</tbody>
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Final grade calculations will follow the Ohio State standard scoring scheme

Additional Assignment Detail

Exam 1 will take place in class on Tuesday February 10th. The exam represents 85 points or 17% of your final grade. You will be asked to answer a number of short answer essay questions covering course materials from the beginning of the semester to the date of the exam.

Exam 2 will take place in class on Thursday March 12th. Like the first exam this one is worth 85 points or 17% of your final grade and is composed of a number of short answer essay questions. The focus of this exam will be material covered between the first exam date and the second exam date. However, understand that the progression of the course and the synthetic nature of the exam questions build as the course progresses, so there is no way to ask questions that do not require cumulative knowledge gained throughout the semester thus far.
The Community Sustainability Project is worth 125 points or 25% of your final grade. Students will be required to work in groups of four to research and analyze the “sustainability” of an Ohio community. Groups will be asked to select a community that fits a particular demographic profile and gather information (primarily census data) on that community. Over the course of the semester we will, as a class, develop a list of sustainability indicators representing the 7 Community Capitals as identified by Flora and Flora. The completion of the project will require the group to perform a sustainability analysis complete with suggestions for improving community sustainability. A complete list of detailed tasks and activities will be provided separately.

The Final Exam is worth 100 points or 20% of your final grade. The construction of the exam is identical to the first and second exams, consisting of a number of short answer essay questions. The additional points on the final represent the need to synthesize elements of class material from across the semester. While the primary focus of the exam is material developed from the date of the second exam to the final, you will be required to utilize information from previous sections.

Participation and Breakout Sessions account for 55 points or 11% of your final grade. These sessions, generally but not exclusively, designated on the syllabus will require the preparation of a short assignment to share with the class. We will use these sessions to build our understanding of the development process and to workshop the sustainability indicators that will guide the Community Sustainability Project.

Six Quizzes representing a total of 50 points or 10% of your final grade are assigned throughout the semester. Each quiz is worth 10 points; the lowest of your six quiz grades will be dropped. Quizzes will be made available on Carmen for three days (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday) of the week in which the material was covered. They will be multiple choice and open note, and you will have a 20 minutes time limit in which to complete the quiz once you start. The intent of the quizzes is to guide your progress through what can be dense material. Be sure to give yourself ample time to prior to the closing of the quiz to account for technical difficulties with Carmen.

Reading Questions will be provided for each assigned reading. These are ungraded, but are intended to help you focus your knowledge of the reading material. Completion of the reading questions before class will provide you with a strong basis to make the most out of the lecture and discussion sessions. Reading questions will also serve as your study guide for the exams.
Resources and Things You Need To Know

Academic misconduct of any kind will not be tolerated. Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations and laboratory exercises. See Code of Student Conduct: Rule 3335-31-02. This and other rules can be found in the Resource Guide for Students or in the back of the Student Telephone Directory. Individual effort is expected on all assignments. If you have a question about approaches and procedures that might constitute academic misconduct, see the instructor.

Statement about the availability of accommodations
If an accommodation based on the impact of a disability is needed, students should contact the instructor to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment the course format can be discussed and any needs and potential accommodations can be anticipated. This class relies on the Office For Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If students have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, they are encouraged to do so if appropriate to their needs.

OSU Links:
Office of Disability Services: http://ods.osu.edu
Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing: http://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center
Student Wellness Center: http://swc.osu.edu
Younkin Success Center: http://younkinsuccess.osu.edu
Counseling and Consultation Services: http://www.ccs.osu.edu

Academic Links:
OSU Libraries: http://library.osu.edu
Google Scholar: http://scholar.google.com
Purdue OWL: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/
Course Schedule:

January 13th, Session #1: The Human Test
Community, sustainability, and why we care.
Ze Frank – TED Talk

January 15th, Session #2: The Community Sustainability Project
Groups, outlines, trajectories, and communities

January 20th, Session #3: Why Community?
Can any word mean so much and so little at the same time?


January 22nd, Session #4: The Quest for Community – Community Lost?
Have we killed community with our constant engagement in “community”?

Sherry Turkle – TED Talk


Quiz #1 (Opens Friday January 23rd closes Sunday January 25 11:59 pm)

January 27th, Session #5: Community Development
What is development and why are we doing it to community?

Diana Schmitt – Rethinking community development: TEDx UNC Asheville
http://youtu.be/3Uv3NVr-PJY

George Hansel on the pros and cons of development
http://youtu.be/SNGV9aRXvuts

January 29th, Session #6: Sustainable Community Development
Why would we want any other kind?


Quiz #2 (Opens Friday January 30th closes Sunday February 1st 11:59 pm)

February 3rd, Session #7: The Community Capitals Approach
Ascent and descent in the life of a community


February 5th, Session #8: Indictors
What are they and how do we use them?

Michael Green – TED Talk


Indicators Workshop #1

February 10th, Exam #1
February 12th, Session #10: Community Theory
Can I leave screaming now?...That's fine, but its kind of important!

Janice Prince Innis: Everyday Sociology Blog. “Sociological theories: What they are and why do we need them?”


February, 17th, Session #11: Typological Approaches


(As Reference) Lyon and Driskell- Chapter 2: The Typological Approach: Community on a Rural/Urban Continuum.

February, 19th, Session #12: Ecological Approaches

Lyon and Driskell- Chapter 3: The Ecological Approach: Community as a Spatial Phenomenon.


Quiz #3: (Opens Friday February 20th closes Sunday February 22nd at 11:59 pm)

February, 24th, Session #13: Systems Approaches

Lyon and Driskell – Chapter 4: The Community as a Social Network


February, 26th, Session #14: Conflict Approaches

Lyon and Driskell – Chapter 5 The Conflict Approach: Marx Finally Comes To the City. (pages 63-69).

Quiz #4: (Opens Friday February 27th closes Sunday March 1st at 11:59 pm)

March, 3rd, Session #15: Community Power and Community Organizing


March, 5th, Session #16: The Garden

*Screening of part 1 of the 2008 Academy Award nominated ('09) documentary*

March, 10th, Session #17: The Garden

*Finish screening of The Garden- discussion and review of theory*

March, 12th, Exam #2

March, 16th-20th = Spring Break

March, 24th, Session #19: Introduction to Community Sustainability

“Sustainability” – What does that mean anyway?

*PBS: Lexicon of Sustainability – What is Sustainability?*

http://video.pbs.org/partnerplayer/PIQ0PulAwAALxdOLP805Mw==/?autoplay=true&start=0&end=0&chapterbar=false&topbar=true&endscreen=true


*Revisit Rogers and Ryan 2001.*

March 26th, Session #20: Human Ecology to Social Ecological Systems

Are we a part of nature or is it a part of us?

*Johan Rockstroem – TED talk*


March 31st, Session #21: Vulnerability and Adaptation

Why is this climate change thing a problem?

April 2nd, Session #22: Resilience and Adaptive Capacity
   Lets spend some more time with this...that article was tough!

   Mitch Landrieu – TEDx NOLA
   http://youtu.be/xF-UABY2MM


Quiz #5: (Opens Friday April 3rd closes Sunday April 5th at 11:59 pm)
April 7th, Session #23: Indicators of Community Sustainability
   How have we done?


April 9th, Session #24: Impacts of Climate Change on Food Security


April 14th, Session #25: Local Agriculture as Sustainable Development


April 16th, Session #26: Extraction – Impacts and Opportunities


   Coal in Kentucky (A Documentary): http://vimeo.com/30431237

Quiz # 6: (Opens Friday April 17th closes Sunday April 19th at 11:59 pm)

April 21st, Session #27: Building Community in Rapidly Changing Times

   Energy and Communities: Video – The Sonoran Institute

April 23rd, Session #28: Wrapping it All Up

May 4th Final Exam – 8:00-9:45 AM