Course Meeting Times
Wednesdays: 2:20 – 5 p.m.
107A Heffner Building, 352 W. Dodridge St., Columbus, OH 43202

Course Instructor
Susan M. Rasche
614-565-8568 (cell)
rasche.4@osu.edu
Office: 384 Kottman Hall
Office hours: By appointment

Course Description
This course will help students develop a broad understanding of Ohio’s native plants and animals, Ohio’s geology and geography, and the interrelationships between and among them. Students will develop research and observational skills associated with Ohio’s natural history.

Course Goals:
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:
• Understand the abiotic and biotic components of Ohio’s natural history
• Understand the relationship between the abiotic and biotic components of Ohio’s ecosystems, including the influence of man
• Identify a range of Ohio species and landforms

Course Objectives
• Students will describe and explain Ohio’s geologic and climatic history and their influence on plant and animal communities.
• Students will identify and describe the ecology of Ohio’s common ecosystems and identify the plants and animals which inhabit them.
• Students will study the influence of man on the natural history of Ohio.

Course Texts
The Ohio Academy of Science.  Columbus, OH
NOTE: any edition will be acceptable, including CD

Kaufman, Kenn, et al.  Kauffman Field Guide to Nature of the Midwest

Attendance
Attendance and punctuality are required and expected. If you need to miss a class, please inform me in advance or have a written excuse for your absence from the Student Health Center. If you miss a class, you are responsible for copying the notes from a fellow classmate and then seeing me if you have any questions. If you have an unexcused absence for a test, your grade will be entered as a zero.
Class Format
Classes will be a combination of lectures and field trips. Discussion and questions are welcome; you sit amongst a synergistic group of your peers. Remember; always have a passion for what you are learning!

Disability Accommodations
The Office for Disability Services will be relied upon to notify me of the need for accommodation of a registered disability. You will also be expected to discuss your accommodations with me in person. If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a non-registered or temporary disability, please inform me so that we can discuss the class format, anticipate your needs, and explore potential accommodations.

Tests, Exams, Assignments, and Values

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance (10 pts. each)</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Midterm Test</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Midterm Test</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plot Study</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total points possible</td>
<td>800</td>
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Notes:
- Tests will cover both lecture and text material. Makeup tests will be offered only under extreme circumstances.
- Writing skills ALWAYS count! Points will be taken off for poor composition and poor spelling.
- Please make sure you cite and give credit for ALL material you use in your work, including that which is gathered from the internet.
- Faculty rule 3335-5-54 will be followed in the case of academic misconduct. Basically, don’t cheat, don’t plagiarize, and don’t be foolish enough to think I will let these kinds of actions slide.
Course Schedule

Jan. 8:
  Introduction (2:20-2:55 p.m.)
  Read Chapters 1, 4 and 17; Field Guide pgs. 5-7
  Geology – Dennis Hull, hull.135@osu.edu (3-5 p.m.)
  Read Chapter 2; Field Guide pgs. 8-17

Jan. 15:
  Weather – Ben Gelber, BGelber@wcmh.com (2:20-3:35 p.m.)
  Read Chapter 5; Field Guide pgs. 18-39
  Pleistocene – Dr. Dale Gnidovec, gnidovec.1@osu.edu (3:40-5 p.m.)
  Read Chapter 3

Jan. 22:
  Soils and Wetlands– Mark Dilley, mark@madscientistassociates.net (2:20-3:20 p.m.)
  Read Chapter 6
  Ohio’s Unique Natural History – Guy Denny & Jennifer Windrus www.onapa.org
    (3:30-4:45 p.m.) Read Chapters 9 – 15, 18, 19; Field Guide pgs. 40-47
  Review 4:45-5 p.m.

Jan. 29:
  **Midterm:** Chapters 1-6, 9-15, 17-19; Field Guide pgs. 5-47, 394-401, Jan. Lectures

Feb. 5:
  Amphibians and Reptiles – Cody Berkebile, berkebile@metroparks.net (2:20-3:35 p.m.)
  Read Field Guide pgs.276-297
  Fish – Brian Zimmerman, zimmerman.205@osu.edu (3:40-5 p.m.)
  Read Chapter 8, Field Guide pgs. 298-321

Feb. 12:
  Arthropods – Dr. George Keeney, keeney.1@osu.edu (2:20-3:35 p.m.)
  Field Guide pgs. 322-391
  Birds – Matt Shumar, matthewbshumar@gmail.com (3:30-5 p.m.)
  Read Field Guide pgs. 208-275

Feb. 19:
  Mammals – Stormy Gibson, sgibson@ohiowildlifecenter.org (2:20-5 p.m.)
  **Offsite** Field Trip - WILDLIFE CENTER
  Read Field Guide pgs.186-207

Feb. 26:
  Brad Lepper, blepper@ohiohistory.org (2:20-5 p.m.)
  **Offsite** Field Trip, small fee required – The Ohio History Center
  Read Chapter 16

Mar. 4:
  **Midterm:** Chapter 16, Field Guide pgs. 186-391, Feb. Lectures; Fauna ID
Mar. 11: NO CLASS, Spring Break - No return to face-to-face instruction

Ap. 15: **Plot Study DUE**

Please contact the following for the most expert help identifying flora:

**Mushrooms**-
Julie Powell Albright, juliepowell16@yahoo.com, www.morethanmorelmushrooms.co/home

**Non-flowering plants** –
Dr. Bob Klips, klips.1@osu.edu

**Wildflowers** -
Jen Snyder, snyder@metroparks.net
Debbie Ruppersburg, ruppersburg@metroparks.net

**Trees** –
Dave Apsley, apsley.1@osu.edu
Andrew Boose, boose@metroparks.net