

## **Course Overview/Syllabus**

### **History, Ecology, and Sustainability of Large Rivers:**

Ecosystem Science Seminar (ENR 8890.03)

Autumn 2016, Tuesday 1:30-3:30pm

Heffner Building, Room 101 (Large Conference Room)

#### **Overview:**

Large floodplain river systems are dynamic and diverse ecosystems that have played a major part in human history. In this course, we will explore the interactions of human activities and river systems over space and time. Specifically, we will delve into (1) the role of large river systems in shaping patterns of human settlement, and networks of biological and economic exchange; (2) the ecology of large floodplain rivers; and (3) the sustainability of large rivers under growing environmental stressors including increasing energy demands, land-use and climate change, and water pollution. Readings will be drawn from the primary scientific literature, historical accounts, and popular texts.

#### **Instructor:**

Dr. Mažeika Sullivan, Office – 125 Heffner Building, email –

[sullivan.191@osu.edu](mailto:sullivan.191@osu.edu)

#### **Grading:**

Attendance and Participation (40%), Presentation (30%), Manuscript (30%).

#### **Interactive Schedule and Readings:**

Although there are some core topics and readings we will cover, my intention is largely for us to build our schedule and readings as a group as we work through the course. To that end, I've set up an interactive Google.doc that will be shared with everyone in the class. We will use Gmail to share this document. If you do not already have a Gmail account, please create one for the class (free of charge). Note that this schedule will be updated as we work through the course, so please make sure to continually check it for changes. We will also have a Canvas (previously Carmen) site for the class.

#### **Academic Misconduct:**

Academic integrity is essential in maintaining excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University's Code of Student Conduct, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University's Code of Student Conduct and this syllabus may constitute "Academic Misconduct."

The Ohio State University's Code of Student Conduct (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: "Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process." Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University's Code of Student Conduct is never considered an excuse for academic misconduct. Please review the Code of Student Conduct and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University's Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

**Disability:**

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disabilities Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform me as soon as possible of their needs.