Course leader
Dr. G. Matt Davies
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- Lab website: http://www.fireregimes.org.uk (includes calendar showing Matt’s availability)

Course purpose
This group-study course can be taken in lieu of ENR4900.01 (capstone) or ENR5560 (restoration ecology). The capstone course allows student groups to generate a restoration management plan for a real organization or stakeholder. ENR5560 is intended as an introduction to the philosophy and ecological complexities of the restoration processes. This course will combine aspects of both. Through this you'll gain experience of the restoration ecology process, key principles in the practice and application of ecosystem restoration and an appreciation of the challenges and rewards of working with stakeholders. Short video lectures, tutorials and discussions will be used to introduce key concepts and ideas as you progress towards the completion of your restoration management plan.

Course philosophy
The general idea is that the course operates as a mini restoration consultancy and we work as a team to high professional standards. Our objective will be to prepare a restoration management plan for a locally-based project. This will give you an appreciation of what it's like to work semi-independently and to a professional standard thereby preparing you to transition into the workplace.

Producing the final report will require a blend of skills including:
- Clear and succinct writing
- Background research to choose and justify your restoration decisions
- Planning for outreach
- Budgeting and budget justification
- Production of maps, plans and images to clarify your proposal
- Team-work to manage your time and resources, clearly designate responsibilities and track how you and your team meet project objectives and milestones

Before commencing this course students should be aware that, though the course leader will ensure important skills/ideas are introduced as appropriate and that resources are available, the primary
responsibility for organizing time and work effort will fall on the students. This is important in fostering a degree of self-reliance and independent organizational skills.

Course schedule
We will meet weekly for 1-2 hours to discuss progress and key concepts introduced through assigned reading and video lectures.

Course meetings:
- Day - Wednesday
- Time - 9:00 am - 11:00 am
- Location - to be confirmed

Students are welcome and encouraged to organize additional meetings in the office or field to gain help, advice and training as required.

Assessment
- Participation (20%) - Students participating in the class will be expected to attend class meetings and to have adequately prepared by completing assigned readings or research activities
- Final report (50%) - Students will work as a team to prepare a final restoration plan to provide to the collaborating stakeholder
- Final presentation (30%) - The participating stakeholders and other interested colleagues will be invited to attend a final presentation where students will explain their restoration plant

Potential projects
There are a range of potential projects we could engage with and we can discuss these together and come up with a consensus when we first meet. Those we could consider include:
1. Developing plans for researching ways to improve pawpaw production in orchards and woodlands on Waterman Farm (linking with OSU's pawpaw extension program and research projects in SENR)
2. Creating a restoration plan for riparian areas on Waterman Farm (including invasive species control and design of native plantings)
3. Developing a planting design for the Mirror Lake restoration project (this project would have a shorter timeline to coincide with the project's deadlines)
4. Investigation of hydrochemical, ecological and soil conditions on a degraded bog to develop a restoration plan (in association with Appalachia Ohio Alliance)
5. Developing a plan for habitat improvements on a local demonstration farm (to be confirmed)

Academic misconduct
Academic misconduct is defined in this course as submitting plagiarized work to meet academic requirements, including the representation of another’s works or ideas as one’s own; the unacknowledged use and/or paraphrasing of another person’s work; and/or the inappropriate unacknowledged use of another person’s ideas; and/or the falsification, fabrication, or dishonesty in reporting research results. Students engaged in academic misconduct will be prosecuted accordingly. Please contact an instructor if you have any questions regarding interpretation of this policy.
Accommodations

If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact me to discuss as soon as possible. We can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need for accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so (http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu, Phone: 614-292-3307). Arrangements can be made for enabling students with language, speech, hearing, or visual impairment to participate in the course, e.g., through assistance of transcribers or readers. Contact the course instructors immediately to discuss if you need some form of accommodation.

Feedback and comments on this course are welcome.