ENR 8890.01 – WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES SCIENCE SEMINAR (1 credit)

SPRING 2015
Time TBA
Location Kottman Hall Room TBA

INSTRUCTOR: Gabriel Karns
Office: Kottman 371B
Phone: 614-292-3865
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Course website: On Carmen

COURSE DESCRIPTION: In this course, we will examine current and controversial topics related to wildlife ecology, management, and conservation. In graduate school, students are encouraged to specialize in their very specific sliver of research; unfortunately, this often occurs at the expense of a wider breadth of knowledge and awareness of the discipline in general. Using the primary literature to provoke thought and conversation, our discussions will address topics including, but not limited to: wildlife habitat relationships, population processes, recreational impacts on wildlife, interspecific and intraspecific interactions, anthropogenic impacts on wildlife, and species conservation. Discussions may also address statistical methodologies and experimental design issues related to any of the above topics.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Depending upon enrollment, students – either individually or in teams of 2 – will be required to select a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 peer-reviewed articles (additional sources or media allowed but cannot replace the primary literature) and guide a classroom discussion using thought-provoking, discussion-invoking questions. Before the discussion, the leading student must present a synthesis of the topic/articles. The presentation will follow detailed guidelines that aim to stretch the student’s comfort zone of public discourse, deliver the material in a captivating/provocative manner, and develop the student’s communication skills. Presenters will also be required to submit a succinctly written summary abstract (1-2 pages double-spaced) of the day’s topic/articles which addresses the questions to be discussed.

A minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 peer-reviewed articles must be submitted electronically (PDF format preferably) to the instructor at least 72 hours prior to the class discussion. The articles will be placed on the Carmen course website where everyone will be required to critically read the articles and participate in the classroom discussion to follow. Students are required to choose topics at least 1 week in advance and may consult the instructor with (Over)
question ideas and articles well in advance of their required day to lead class. Generating thought-provoking questions related to the topic is critical for fostering quality discussion.

**COURSE EVALUATION:** Grades (S/U) will be based upon participation in topic discussions (25%), submission of topic articles at least 48 hours prior to class discussion (10%), submission of a presentation/discussion abstract (15%), presentation of articles/topic (25%), and leading the topic discussion (25%).

**PRE-REQUISITES:** Graduate standing, or permission of instructor. This course is repeatable during multiple semesters up to 8 completions.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp)

**DISABILITY SERVICES:** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/.