

SYLLABUS

ENR 8890.04

Soil Science Graduate Seminar

Autumn 2020 (full term)

1 credit hours

Online synchronous

COURSE OVERVIEW

Instructors

Co-Instructor: Dr. M. Scott Demyan

Email address: demyan.4@osu.edu (preferred contact method)

Phone number: 614-688-3349 Office location: 408B Kottman Hall

Office hours: by request

Co-Instructor: Dr. Jeffory Hattey

Email address: hattey.3@osu.edu (preferred contact method)

Phone number: 614-292-4328 Office location: 406C Kottman Hall

Office hours: by request

Prerequisites

Graduate student standing.

Course description

Catalog description: Seminar on special topics in soil science in environment and natural resources.

This seminar session is devoted to students, faculty, and staff which are interested in soil science related research, work, and professional development. The content covered during the semester is a mixture of topical research lectures, journal club format discussions, professional development, and activity centered. We strive to create specific activities that are a fit for the current soil science and related graduate students and devote the first seminar session for brainstorming in order to draft a tentative schedule for the semester.

Course learning outcomes

By the end of this course, students should successfully be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of most up to date topics in soil science research and education
- Demonstrate progress towards developing their professional development portfolio
- Demonstrate knowledge of current work within the soil science affiliated research groups at OSU

HOW THIS ONLINE COURSE WORKS

Mode of delivery: This course is 100% online synchronous format. We will convene via Carmen Zoom Tuesdays from 3:00-4:00 pm.

Credit hours and work expectations: This is a **1-credit-hour course**. According to Ohio State policy (go.osu.edu/credithours), students should expect around 1 hour per week of time spent on direct instruction (instructor content and Carmen activities, for example) in addition to 2 hours of outside class effort (reading and assignment preparation, for example).

Attendance and participation requirements: Because this is an online course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of students' expected participation:

- **Participating in live sessions for attendance: ONCE PER WEEK**
You are expected participate in the Carmen Zoom sessions every week. If you have a situation that might cause you to miss a class session, discuss with us *as soon as possible*.

COURSE MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Textbooks

Required

- No textbooks are required for this class. All readings for the class will be posted on the Carmen course page (<https://carmen.osu.edu>).

Course technology

Technology support

For help with your password, university email, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the Ohio State IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at ocio.osu.edu/help/hours, and support for urgent issues is available 24/7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** ocio.osu.edu/help
- **Phone:** 614-688-4357(HELP)
- **Email:** servicedesk@osu.edu
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

Technology skills needed for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen (go.osu.edu/canvasstudent)
- CarmenZoom virtual meetings (go.osu.edu/zoom-meetings)

Required equipment

- Computer: current Mac (MacOs) or PC (Windows 10) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed and tested
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone
- Other: a mobile device (smartphone or tablet) to use for BuckeyePass authentication

Required software

- Not applicable

Carmen access

You will need to use BuckeyePass (buckeyepass.osu.edu) multi-factor authentication to access your courses in Carmen. To ensure that you are able to connect to Carmen at all times, it is recommended that you take the following steps:

- Register multiple devices in case something happens to your primary device. Visit the BuckeyePass - Adding a Device help article for step-by-step instructions (go.osu.edu/add-device).
- Request passcodes to keep as a backup authentication option. When you see the Duo login screen on your computer, click **Enter a Passcode** and then click the **Text me new codes** button that appears. This will text you ten passcodes good for 365 days that can each be used once.
- Download the Duo Mobile application (go.osu.edu/install-duo) to all of your registered devices for the ability to generate one-time codes in the event that you lose cell, data, or Wi-Fi service

If none of these options will meet the needs of your situation, you can contact the IT Service Desk at 614-688-4357(HELP) and IT support staff will work out a solution with you.

GRADING AND FACULTY RESPONSE

How your grade is calculated

ASSIGNMENT CATEGORY	POINTS
Lead one group discussion	30
Contribution to semester activity	40
Class participation	30
Total	100

Descriptions of major course assignments

Lead Group discussion on topical issue

Description: Each student within the frames of the class will lead an in-class discussion on a soil science or related topic usually centered around a journal article(s).

Academic integrity and collaboration: While the class will come up with general topics and structure for the course, individual students will be expected to prepare for their own topic.

Participation in semester activity

Description: Depending on the result of the first session brainstorming activity, the class will undertake a semester activity which will involve some amount of planning and preparation before the final product or activity is implemented. Examples of past semesters activities have included a Soils Research Day Symposium, creating a SENR Soil Science website, and outreach day at a local middle school . The nature of the activity will determine the specific tasks and roles of each student.

Academic integrity and collaboration: Students will be encouraged to work together as this is a collaborative activity.

Class participation (30%)

Description: Active participation in seminar planning and contributions during live in class discussions.

Academic integrity and collaboration: Students are expected to be present during the live Zoom sessions.

Notice of absence and makeup work

A notice of absence should be given to the instructors as soon as possible if you are unable to attend a live class session. Students with absences will be provided with a makeup assignment to complete a short summary of a peer-reviewed research article pertinent to the class and to share a 5-minute synopsis during the next class session.

1. We will not penalize students for absence during the academic term due to the following **unavoidable or legitimate** circumstances:
 - illness, physical or mental, of you or your dependent(s);

- dependent care during emergency school closings (Covid-19 and otherwise);
- medical conditions and appointments during pregnancy;
- participation in intercollegiate athletic events;
- subpoenas;
- jury duty;
- military service;
- bereavement, including travel related to bereavement;
- religious observances;
- participation in formal University system governance, including the University Senate, Student Senate, and Board of Regents meetings, by students selected as representatives to those bodies; and
- activities sponsored by the University if identified by the senior academic officer for the campus or the officer's designee as the basis for excused absences.

2. For circumstances not listed in (1), we will decide on a case-by-case basis if an absence is due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstances.

Notification, Verification of Absences, and Make-up Work

1. Please notify one of us via email, of circumstances identified in (1) or other circumstances leading to a request for makeup work as soon as possible and provide information to explain the absence. Some situations will be sufficiently urgent that arrangements for makeup work cannot be made prior to the date of an absence. In such cases, we will make arrangements as soon as possible following your return.
2. We may request verification for absences, with the exception of a single episode medical absence that does not require medical services.
3. We may request verification for a single episode medical absence if (i) you have had more than one single episode medical absence in the class.
4. You will not be penalized, and we will provide reasonable and timely accommodation or opportunity to contribute towards the course if you:
 1. Were absent due to circumstances identified in (1);
 2. Have complied with the notification requirements; and
 3. Have provided verification if we have requested further information.
5. Extended absences that result in missing many critical components of the course, even for legitimate reasons, will be dealt with on a case by case basis, as arrangements for makeup work may be difficult or unreasonable to accomplish.

Grading scale

93–100: A
 90–92.9: A-
 87–89.9: B+
 83–86.9: B

80–82.9: B-
 77–79.9: C+
 73–76.9: C
 70–72.9: C-
 67–69.9: D+
 60–66.9: D
 Below 60: E

Instructor feedback and response time

We are providing the following list to give you an idea of our intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call **614-688-4357(HELP)** at any time if you have a technical problem.)

- **Email:** we will reply to emails within **24 hours on days when class is in session at the university**.

OTHER COURSE POLICIES

Discussion and communication guidelines

The following are our expectations for how we should communicate as a class. Above all, please remember to be respectful and thoughtful.

- This seminar is intended to be **student-driven**. In this regard we need your valuable inputs during the course to tailor it to be specific for your research area and career goals. Thus, your **active participation** is vital for the success of the course.

Academic integrity policy

Ohio State's academic integrity policy

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters 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* (studentconduct.osu.edu), 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, so we recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.

If we suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, we are 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.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact us.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- Committee on Academic Misconduct web page (go.osu.edu/coam)
- Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity (go.osu.edu/ten-suggestions)
- Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity (go.osu.edu/cardinal-rules)

Copyright for instructional materials

The materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection and are only for the use of students officially enrolled in the course for the educational purposes associated with the course. Copyright law must be considered before copying, retaining, or disseminating materials outside of the course.

Statement on Title IX

All students and employees at Ohio State have the right to work and learn in an environment free from harassment and discrimination based on sex or gender, and the university can arrange interim measures, provide support resources, and explain investigation options, including referral to confidential resources.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or discriminated against based on your sex or gender, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, or sexual exploitation, you may find information about your rights and options at titleix.osu.edu or by

contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator at titleix@osu.edu. Title IX is part of the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) at Ohio State, which responds to all bias-motivated incidents of harassment and discrimination, such as race, religion, national origin and disability. For more information on OIE, visit equity.osu.edu or email equity@osu.edu.

Commitment to a diverse and inclusive learning environment

The Ohio State University affirms the importance and value of diversity in the student body. Our programs and curricula reflect our multicultural society and global economy and seek to provide opportunities for students to learn more about persons who are different from them. We are committed to maintaining a community that recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among each member of our community; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. Discrimination against any individual based upon protected status, which is defined as age, color, disability, gender identity or expression, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status, is prohibited.

Your mental health

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce a student's ability to participate in daily activities. No matter where you are engaged in distance learning, The Ohio State University's Student Life Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) is here to support you. If you find yourself feeling isolated, anxious or overwhelmed, on-demand resources are available at go.osu.edu/ccsondemand. You can reach an on-call counselor when CCS is closed at 614-292-5766, and 24-hour emergency help is also available through the 24/7 National Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. The Ohio State Wellness app is also a great resource available at go.osu.edu/wellnessapp.

ACCESSIBILITY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Requesting accommodations

The university strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers based

on your disability including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions, please let us know immediately so that we can privately discuss options. To establish reasonable accommodations, we may request that you register with Student Life Disability Services. After registration, make arrangements with me as soon as possible to discuss your accommodations so that they may be implemented in a timely fashion. **SLDS contact information:** slds@osu.edu; 614-292-3307; 098 Baker Hall, 113 W. 12th Avenue.

Accessibility of course technology

This online course requires use of CarmenCanvas (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

- Canvas accessibility (go.osu.edu/canvas-accessibility)
- Streaming audio and video
- CarmenZoom accessibility (go.osu.edu/zoom-accessibility)
- Collaborative course tools

COURSE SCHEDULE

Refer to the Carmen course for up-to-date assignment due dates.

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 25th	Brain storming session; student specific topics and activities for semester
2	Sept 1st	Planning for semester activity I/professional development session
3	Sept 8th	Planning for semester activity II/professional development session
4	Sept 15th	Topic TBA
5	Sept 22nd	Topic TBA
6	Sept 29th	Topic TBA
7	Oct 6th	Topic TBA

Week	Dates	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
8	Oct 13th	Topic TBA
9	Oct 20th	Topic TBA
10	Oct 27th	Student presentations for Tri-society meetings
11	Nov 3rd	Student presentations for Tri-society meetings
12	Nov 10th	Topic TBA
13	Nov 17th	Topic TBA
14	Nov 24th	Wrap up session, seminar feedback