Course overview

Instructor

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Content editors

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Course description

This course is an introduction to the basic elements of forestry, fisheries, and wildlife (FFW) ecology and management for majors in environment and natural resources. It provides
students with a comprehensive and integrated introduction to the problems, concepts, and strategies that make these disciplines similar, as well as establishing important differences between them. This course has also been organized to provide an introduction to non-majors who may not have the opportunity to take further courses in these fields. **Prereq: ENR 2100**

This is a completely online course that will utilize multiple platforms supported by The Ohio State University. Course content, including lecture presentations and videos, will be delivered using CarmenCanvas, OSU’s learning management system. CarmenCanvas ([https://carmen.osu.edu/](https://carmen.osu.edu/)) will also be used to complete quizzes, exams, and other assignments. Other resources, such as BuckeyeBox ([https://box.osu.edu/](https://box.osu.edu/)) and the University Libraries, may also be used. This course is self-paced yet all course requirements must be completed during the semester of offering AND all assignments, quizzes, and exams must be completed by the due date shown on the syllabus to receive the opportunity for credit.

*A special acknowledgement must be given to Drs. Lauren Pintor and Steven Matthews (SENR) for their creation of and continued input regarding course content.*

### Course learning outcomes

After successful completion of ENR 3300, students will be able to:

- Define and identify the conservation and management goals associated with the fields of forestry, fisheries and wildlife.
- Understand basic ecological concepts as they relate and are applied to forestry, fisheries, and wildlife management and conservation.
- Understand how ecosystems function to support forestry, fisheries and wildlife, and in turn, how forestry, fisheries and wildlife support key ecosystem functions.
- Understand the structure and dynamics of populations and communities as they relate to sustaining resource production and conserving biodiversity.
- Describe how forestry, fisheries, and wildlife relate to and are influenced by anthropogenic use and drivers of environmental change.

### Course materials

**No Textbook Required**

No textbook is required, but readings may be assigned throughout the course and will be available through CarmenCanvas.

### Course technology

For help with your password, university email, CarmenCanvas, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at [https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours](https://ocio.osu.edu/help/hours), and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.
Baseline technical skills necessary for online courses
- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating CarmenCanvas

Technology skills necessary for this specific course
- CarmenConnect text, audio, and video chat
- Recording a slide presentation with audio narration
- Recording, editing, and uploading video

Required equipment
- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Webcam: built-in or external webcam, fully installed
- Microphone: built-in laptop or tablet mic or external microphone

Grading and faculty response

Grades
Your course grade will be evaluated on three quizzes, three exams (two midterms and a final), an individual project, and discussion board participation.

Quizzes taken on CARMENCANVAS
Quiz questions may consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. All quizzes will be taken online using CarmenCanvas. Quizzes will be open on CarmenCanvas for approximately 24 hours and you can take the exam anytime during this period. You will be given 30 minutes to complete the quiz. If you fail to complete the quiz on Carmen before it closes you will earn a grade of 0%. You will NOT come to a classroom to take the quiz. Rather, you take the quiz from a location of your choosing that has Internet connection (e.g., dorm room, library). A significant number of quiz questions will come from material presented in lecture videos. Additional material will be drawn from the assigned readings and videos. Each student must complete the quiz on her or his own. You are NOT permitted to receive assistance from anyone else during the quiz. You are NOT permitted to take the quizzes as part of a group. You ARE permitted to use notes, slides, calculator, textbook, journal articles, books, and
Internet during the quiz, but the amount of time allotted precludes this use. Additional details will be provided during the semester.

There are NO make-up quizzes.

**Exams taken on CARMENCANVAS**

Examinations may consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. All exams will be taken online using CarmenCanvas. Exams will be open on CarmenCanvas for approximately 24 hours and you can take the exam anytime during these 24 hours. You will be given 60-100 minutes to complete the exam. If you fail to complete the exam on Carmen before it closes you will earn a grade of 0%. You will NOT come to a classroom to take the exam. Rather, you take the exam from a location of your choosing that has Internet connection (e.g., dorm room, library). A significant number of exam questions will come from material presented in lecture videos. Additional material will be drawn from the assigned readings and videos. Each student must complete the exam on her or his own. You are NOT permitted to receive assistance from anyone else during the exam. You are NOT permitted to take the exams as part of a group. You ARE permitted to use notes, slides, calculator, textbook, journal articles, books, and Internet during the exam. Additional details will be provided during the semester.

There are **NO make-up exams** except for valid reasons (e.g., medical excuse). If you are sick, you must have a note signed by your medical doctor (i.e. a licensed physician) and dated the same day as the exam and excusing you from the 24-hour period that the exam is open. Otherwise, you will receive a zero on the exam. The instructor will determine if your excuse is valid. If you do **not** have a reasonable excuse for missing an exam then you will receive a zero for the exam. Approved make-up exams will consist of multiple choice, short-answer and essay questions.

**Individual Project**

This project is designed to allow you to become an expert on a specific conservation and management issue in the Great Lakes ecosystem and then learn from another peer on a different, but related resource management issue in forestry, fisheries & wildlife within the ecosystem.

Briefly, each student will be assigned a specific conservation and management topic focused on the Great Lakes and will individually prepare a small-sized poster. The first step of the project will be to develop an annotated bibliography drawing on peer reviewed articles based on the topic area you are assigned. After feedback on your annotated bibliography, you will then craft a research poster on your topic. You will also be asked to submit an audio or video file of a 2-3 minute presentation of your poster. Once the poster and narration are submitted, you will be assigned to evaluate 2-3 peers’ posters to learn about their management problem. As part of the peer evaluation, you will be required to answer a set of questions related to your assigned peer’s poster topic. In sum, each individual will be required to turn in an annotated bibliography, their individual poster to the instructor, their individual poster + presentation to their expert group (assigned mid-semester), and set of peer review answers on their peer’s poster topic.
Discussion Board Participation

Discussion Board prompts will be posted on CarmenCanvas every other week and will be open for 7 days (Monday at 12:00a to the following Sunday at 11:59p). There will be a total of 7 discussion board prompts during the semester, which includes 1 in our first week (titled, “Introducing Ourselves”). For the opportunity to earn full credit for your participation grade, you must participate in ALL discussion boards.

Students are expected to do the following for each discussion board that they choose to participate in:

- Answer one of the questions/scenarios that I (Kim Winslow) pose for that prompt.
  
  **AND** 1 of the following:
  
  - Pose your own question in relation to the topic(s) addressed
  - Reply to a peer’s discussion post
  - Answer a second question/scenario that I post

Posts that are deemed inappropriate by me will receive a ZERO. The ZERO will count for one of the discussion board grades (meaning it cannot be dropped).

NOTE: I also encourage synchronous discussions with classmates. Please see “Bonus Point Opportunity” under Week 1 for more information. And remember, if you complete a synchronous discussion on one of the discussion board prompts, you do not need to type a response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment or category</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual poster project</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annotated bibliography</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Poster</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer evaluation of a fellow expert</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes (3 total worth 25/ea)</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterms (2 total worth 100/ea)</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>70</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>550</strong></td>
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See course schedule, below, for due dates
Late assignments
The penalty for late assignments is 10% of the assignment total per day. We will not extend deadlines for any reason. There should be extenuating circumstances for missing a scheduled exam. In these cases, early arrangements will need to be coordinated.

**IMPORTANT: You must contact me PRIOR TO a planned conflict to make arrangements for modified deadlines. Otherwise, no arrangements will be made. If you are ill the day of an assignment/quiz/exam, you must reach out to me with verification of your absence on the day of the missed deadline, otherwise no accommodations will be made. If you would like any clarification on this, don’t hesitate to reach out.

Grading scale
93–100: A  73–76: C
90–92: A-  70 –72: C-
87–89: B+  67 –69: D+
83–86: B  60 –66: D
80–82: B- Below 60:
77–79: C+

Faculty feedback and response time
I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call 614-688-HELP at any time if you have a technical problem.)

Grading and feedback
For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within 7 days.

Email
We will reply to emails within 24 hours on school days. All email communications should be made using your OSU address (i.e. name.#@buckeyemail.osu.edu).

Discussion board
We will check and reply to messages in the discussion boards every 24 hours on school days.
 Attendance, participation, and discussions

Student participation requirements
Because this is a distance-education course, your attendance is based on your online activity and participation. The following is a summary of everyone's expected participation:

- **Logging in:** **AT LEAST ONCE PER WEEK**
  Be sure you are logging in to the course in CarmenCanvas each week, including weeks with holidays or weeks with minimal online course activity. (During most weeks you will probably log in many times.) If you have a situation that might cause you to miss an entire week of class, discuss it with the instructor *as soon as possible.*

- **Office hours:** **OPTIONAL**
  If you would like to discuss an assignment or other course-related question with the instructor or TA, please contact them at the beginning of the week via email in order to schedule an appointment.

- **Self-checks:** **ON CARMENCANVAS/OPTIONAL**
  At the end of each lecture, an optional self-check will be available to you. These self-check surveys consists of 5 questions randomly pulled from a larger question bank. You are encouraged to attempt them multiple times to check your understanding of the lecture material and as a study tool for quizzes/exams. Self-checks are worth no points and are completely optional, but highly encouraged.

- **Quizzes:** **ON CARMENCANVAS**
  There will be 3 quizzes during the course that are meant to test your progress and prepare you for exam-style questions. These quizzes will be open for 24 hours. In previous courses we have found that participation on quizzes positively affects a student’s overall class performance. Therefore, we encourage you to use these as tools to integrate overall comprehension.

- **Exams:** **ON CARMENCANVAS**
  Please know that 3 exams (two mid-term exams and one final) will serve as the bulk of your assessment in this course. They will only be open for 24-hour periods, so please plan accordingly. They are structured to test your comprehension and ability to apply course material.

- **Discussion Boards:** **ON CARMENCANVAS**
  We have found that student participation and engagement are important to your success in this course. To facilitate this, there will be a set of discussion board prompts throughout the course. The discussion board prompts will vary in format, but they will all attempt to apply concepts we are learning in the course that week, and encourage you to stretch your thinking. *Your participation in these discussion boards will be used to calculate your final participation grade.*
**IMPORTANT:** You must contact me PRIOR TO a planned conflict to make arrangements for modified deadlines. Otherwise, no arrangements will be made. If you are ill the day of an assignment/quiz/exam, you must reach out to me with verification of your absence on the day of the missed deadline, otherwise no accommodations will be made. If you would like any clarification on this, don’t hesitate to reach out.

**Discussion and communication guidelines**

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

- **Writing style:** While there is no need to participate in class discussions as if you were writing a research paper, you should remember to write using good grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Informality (including an occasional emoticon) is fine for non-academic topics.

- **Tone and civility:** Let’s maintain a supportive learning community where everyone feels safe and where people can disagree amicably. Remember that sarcasm doesn’t always come across online.

- **Citing your sources:** When we have academic discussions, please cite your sources to back up what you say. (For the textbook or other course materials, list at least the title and page numbers. For online sources, include a link.)

- **Backing up your work:** Consider composing your academic posts in a word processor, where you can save your work, and then copying into the Carmen discussion.

**Other course policies**

**Academic integrity policy**

**Policies for this online course**

- **Quizzes and exams:** You must complete the quizzes and the midterm and final exams yourself, without any external help or communication.

- **Written assignments:** Your written assignments, including discussion posts, should be your own original work. In formal assignments, you should follow APA style to cite the ideas and words of your research sources. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in—but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.

- **Reusing past work:** In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to build on past research or revisit a topic you’ve explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with an instructor.
• **Falsifying research or results:** All research you will conduct in this course is intended to be a learning experience; you should never feel tempted to make your results or your library research look more successful than it was.

• **Collaboration and informal peer-review:** The course includes many opportunities for formal collaboration with your classmates. While study groups and peer-review of major written projects is encouraged, remember that comparing answers on a quiz or assignment is not permitted. If you're unsure about a particular situation, please feel free just to ask ahead of time.

**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*, 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 I 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 me.

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

• The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages ([COAM Home](#))
• *Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity* ([Ten Suggestions](#))
• *Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity* ([www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm](#))
Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities

Requesting accommodations
If you would like to request academic accommodations based on the impact of a disability qualified under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, contact your instructor privately as soon as possible to discuss your specific needs. Discussions are confidential.

In addition to contacting the instructor, please contact the Student Life Disability Services at 614-292-3307 or ods@osu.edu to register for services and/or to coordinate any accommodations you might need in your courses at The Ohio State University.

Go to http://ods.osu.edu for more information.

Accessibility of course technology
This online course requires use of Carmen (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.

- Carmen (Canvas) accessibility
- Streaming audio and video
- Synchronous course tools

Take care of yourself
A recent American College Health Survey found stress, sleep problems, anxiety, depression, interpersonal concerns, death of a significant other, and alcohol use among the top ten health impediments to academic performance. Students experiencing personal problems or situational crises during the quarter are encouraged to contact the OSU Counseling and Consultation Services (614-292-5766; www.ccs.osu.edu) for assistance, support, and advocacy.

Statement on Title IX
Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to
offenses against other protected categories (e.g., race). If you or someone you know has been
sexually harassed or assaulted, you may find the appropriate resources at http://titleix.osu.edu
or by contacting the Ohio State Title IX Coordinator, Kellie Brennan, at titleix@osu.edu
## Course schedule (**please read the “course schedule highlights” below**)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Lecture(s)</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Discussion Board Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>January 7 - 11</td>
<td>Background to FFW and introduction to natural resource management</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introducing Ourselves</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>January 14 - 18</td>
<td>Basics of fisheries and aquatic sciences</td>
<td>Quiz 1</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(Friday, January 18)</em></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>January 21 - 25</td>
<td>Basics of wildlife ecology and management</td>
<td></td>
<td>FFW Basics</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>January 28 - February 1</td>
<td>Basics of forest ecology and management</td>
<td>EXAM 1</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(Friday, February 1)</em></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>February 4 - 8</td>
<td>Population dynamics and carrying capacity</td>
<td></td>
<td>Population/Carrying Capacity</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>February 11 - 15</td>
<td>Dispersal, migration &amp; metapopulation dynamics</td>
<td>Quiz 2</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(Friday, February 15)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>February 8 - 22</td>
<td>Harvest and regulation of forest, fish, and wildlife</td>
<td>Annotated bibliography due</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(Friday, February 22)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>February 25 - March 1</td>
<td>Methods to quantify forests, fish, and wildlife</td>
<td></td>
<td>Metapopulations and Methods</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>Lecture(s)</td>
<td>Assessment</td>
<td>Discussion Board Topic</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>March 4 - 8</td>
<td>Succession and disturbance</td>
<td>EXAM 2</td>
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<td><em>(Friday, March 8)</em></td>
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<td><em>SPRING BREAK (March 11 - 15)</em></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>March 18 - 22</td>
<td>Fire management, fragmentation &amp; climate change</td>
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<td>Fire Management and Climate Change</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>March 25 - 29</td>
<td>Endangered species &amp; challenging single-species management</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>(Friday, March 29)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>April 1 - 5</td>
<td>Invasive species, parasites and disease</td>
<td>Posters due</td>
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<td><em>(Friday, April 5... to me and to your group!)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>April 8 - 12</td>
<td>Urban management in forestry, fisheries, and wildlife</td>
<td>Peer evaluations due</td>
<td>Invasive species and urban management</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><em>(Friday, April 12)</em></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>April 15 - 19</td>
<td>Social dimensions</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fear and Fishing</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>26-Apr</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM (April 26)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Course schedule highlights**

- All assessments (quizzes, exams, and your individual project) will always be due by Fridays at 11:59p on the week listed
  - Example: Quiz 1
- Discussion Boards will open Mondays at 12:00a and close Sundays at 11:59p
- Quizzes and exams will open at 12:00a Friday morning and close at 11:59p that same Friday (i.e., they will only be open for 24 hours, and will always be held on Fridays)
- It is your responsibility to contact me *(winslow.52@osu.edu)* if you have a scheduling issue regarding any of the due dates listed on the syllabus BEFORE the assessment is due