Ethnoecology

LAS 6290/ANT 6930
M periods 3-5
GRI 376

Instructor: Richard Stepp, stepp@ufl.edu
Office Location: Grinter 337
Office Hours: by appointment
Office phone: 392-0299

Ethnoecology is the study of the dynamic relationships between people, biota and the environment. This seminar will provide an overview along with an emphasis on how indigenous and small scale societies know and utilize natural resources and the implications for conservation and development. Additionally, the course will explore useful research skills and methods for students desiring to add an ethnoecological component to their existing or future research. Case studies will be examined from all over the tropics and world. Readings and discussions in the course will draw from both the social sciences and the biological sciences. The course is part of the interdisciplinary TCD (Tropical Conservation and Development) core curriculum, although students from any discipline are welcome and encouraged to take the course. There are no prerequisites needed.

Texts
There is 1 required text for the course:

Additional readings will be made available through the class email listserv as pdf files at least 1 week prior to discussion.

Course Objectives
• Students will gain a good understanding of concepts and principles in ethnoecology
• Students will gain an understanding of, and appreciation for, the importance of plants and animals in sustaining human culture.
• Students will learn how to properly and ethically conduct basic ethnoecological field research.
• Students will learn how ethnoecological knowledge can both inform and strengthen conservation initiatives
• Students will learn skills and methods from this course that they can apply creatively to their own studies and research.
Course requirements and grading policy
Everyone in class is expected to do all of the readings before the class in which they will be discussed. Your fluency in the readings is essential for the success of this seminar and your participation (along with being a discussion leader if enrolled at the graduate level) will consist of 20% of your grade.

DISCUSSION LEADER
Students taking the course at the graduate level are responsible for leading/co-leading the class discussion for topics of your choice as designated in the course outline below. Discussion leaders will bring a list of questions and points of interest, designed to facilitate dialogue and debate with reference to the assigned readings. Note: this is not a mere summation of the material; the goal is to creatively lead the class in the exchange of ideas. You are free to choose which topic you would like to chair, and assignments will be made on a first come, first serve basis. Responsibilities will be equally divided amongst the class.

RESEARCH/REVIEW PAPER AND PRESENTATION
Participants will identify a particular topic involving ethnoecology and prepare a report between 2000-2500 words as well as make a 15-20 minute presentation in class. A one-page summary of the topic is due 10/21. Additional details will be clearly explained during the class.

ETHNOECOLOGY GARDEN EDUCATION PROJECT
Students will identify a species (or genera) of interest growing or soon to be growing in the ethnoecology garden on campus. They will develop an education module for this species consisting of a monograph of around 750-100 words. Additional details will be clearly explained during the class.

No late assignments will be accepted.
Course grades are based on the following:
40% Research/Review Paper
10% Research Topic
10% Individual Oral Presentation
20% Ethnoecology Garden Education Project
20% Leading Discussion/Participation

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<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A = 90 or above</td>
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<td>A- = 87 - 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+ = 84 - 86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B = 80 - 83</td>
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<tr>
<td>B- = 77 - 79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+ = 74 - 76</td>
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http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html

SCHEDULE AND READINGS
Note: case studies will be interspersed throughout the schedule. Additional readings will be assigned that will be available electronically.

Week 1: 8/26
Introduction to the Course

Week 2: 9/2
Labor Day

Week 3: 9/9
The Nature and Scope of Ethnoecology, Biocultural Diversity
Readings: Anderson Ch 1,2,6,9, Maffi and Woodley

Week 4: 9/16
Cognitive Approaches, Ethnobiological Classification
Readings: Anderson Ch. 19, 20, 21, 22

Week 5: 9/23
Ethnoecology Garden

Week 6: 9/30
Research Methods in Ethnoecology
Readings: TBD

Week 7: 10/7
Subsistence Strategies, Wild Plant Use, Agriculture, and Ethnoecology
Readings: Anderson Ch. 13, 14, 15, 18

Week 8: 10/14
Acquiring Traditional Ecological Knowledge; Children and Ethnoecology
Readings: TBD

Week 9: 10/21
Ecological Biochemistry and Ethnoecology
Readings: TBD

Week 10: 10/28
Contribution of Ethnoecology to Understanding Human-Environment Interactions in the Past, Why the Past Matters, Historical Ecology
Readings: Anderson Ch. 7,10,11,16,17

Week 11: 11/4
Landscape Ethnoecology Experiential Learning
Ethnoecology Garden Project Due
Readings: TBD

Week 12: 11/12
Veteran’s Day

Week 13: 11/19
Ethics, IPR related to Ethnoecology and Conservation
Case Study Presentations
Readings: Anderson Ch. 3,4,8

Week 14: 11/26
Case Study Presentations

Week 15: 12/3
The Future of Ethnoecology
Final Paper Due
University of Florida Policies

Honesty:
UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scrr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Campus Resources: Health and Wellness
U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
Counseling and Wellness Center: https://counseling.ufl.edu/, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.
Academic Resources
E-learning technical support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml.
Career Connections Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. https://career.ufl.edu/
Library Support, http://cms.ufllib.ufl.edu/ask. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

Disabilities Accommodations:
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Attendance Policy:
http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html