

## Arch 4620: Ethnobiology

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**Basic Information:** Ethnobiology is the study of the interactions between humans and biota at many temporal and spatial scales. This course is an exploration of ethnobiology via biology, anthropology, geography, and at times archaeology. The course is a readings-based discussion seminar using a mixture of primary academic and popular literature.

**Course Structure:** Each week students will come having read the weekly materials, prepared for discussions. Discussion will be organized as short essay questions and responses that will be answered in small groups of three to four students. Group membership will change each month. Each week, groups will turn in their hand-written essay responses to the discussion questions; time limits will be given for duration of essay responses during the discussion period. In addition to the group discussions, there will be two take home essay exams that students will turn in at the midterm and during the final exam period. The final part of the grade is for article reviews (see below).

### Reading Material

Anderson et al. 2011, Editors. Ethnobiology. Wiley Blackwell, Hoboken, NJ.

Diamond, J. 2012. The World Until Yesterday. Viking Press, New York.

Haskell, D. G. 2012. The Forest Unseen. Penguin Books, New York.

Nabhan, G. P. 2004. Cross-Pollinations. Milkweed Edition, Minneapolis, MN.

### Percentage Allocation

Midterm Exam = 15%

Final Exam = 15%

Article Reviews = 20%

Group Essays = 30%

Attendance = 20%

Final Grades: 89.5 to 100% = A, 79.5 to 89.4 = B, 69.5 to 79.4 = C, 59.5 to 69.5 = D,  $\leq 59.4$  = F

There will be a 3% final grade increase for “perfect” attendance (see dictionary.com definition below).

### per·fect

*adj., n.* 'pɜːfɪkt; v. pər'fekt Show Spelled [*adj., n.* **pur**-fikt; v. per-**fekt**] Show IPA

#### adjective

1. conforming absolutely to the description or definition of an ideal type: *a perfect sphere; a perfect gentleman.*
2. excellent or complete beyond practical or theoretical improvement: *There is no perfect legal code. The proportions of this temple are almost perfect.*
3. exactly fitting the need in a certain situation or for a certain purpose: *a perfect actor to play Mr. Micawber; a perfect saw for cutting out keyholes.*
4. entirely without any flaws, defects, or shortcomings: *a perfect apple; the perfect crime.*
5. accurate, exact, or correct in every detail: *a perfect copy.*

### **Take Home Exams**

There will be two exams, a final and a mid-term. Students will be given essay questions that relate to the reading material the week prior to the exam due date. Exams are due at the beginning of the class period.

### **Article Reviews**

There are three essay article reviews that students must write during the semester. Article reviews are summaries of papers published since 2010 in the Journal of Ethnobiology. Students can gain digital access to the Journal of Ethnobiology by becoming online members of the Society of Ethnobiology (\$15) <http://ethnobiology.org/membership/join>. Reviews must be Calibri font, 11 pt font, 1 inch margins, and single spaced. They should be no shorter than 1.5 pages and no longer than 3 pages. Each review should address the main theme of the paper, how authors of the paper approached their topic (what type of analyses, if any), the main issues addressed in the paper, and the impacts of any research findings.

### **Group Essays**

Each class period, there will be discussion questions related to the readings for the week. Responses will be hand-written in small groups and will be turned in at the end of the class period.

### **Pop Reading Quizzes**

If students do not appear to be prepared for reading discussion during a class period, the instructor reserves the right to give a pop quiz. Pop quizzes could represent up to 25% of the course grade, if needed.

### **Course Outline**

Week 1: Sept 9

Part 1: Ethnobiology: Chapters 1, 2 & 12

Part 2: Diamond Prologue & Chapter 1

Part 3: Haskell May sections

Week 2: Sept 16

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapters 3 & 4

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 2

Part 3: Haskell June 2<sup>nd</sup> to June 20<sup>th</sup>

Week 3: Sept 23, visitor Jessica Beckham

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapter 6 & 9

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 3

Part 3: Case Study July 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>

Week 4: Sept 30

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapters 7 & 15

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 4

Part 3: Haskell August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Article Review 1 Due**

Week 5: Oct 7

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapters 10 & 11

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 5

Part 3: Haskell September 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>

Week 6: Oct 14

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapter 13

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 6

Part 3: Haskell September 26<sup>th</sup> to October 14<sup>th</sup>

***Take Home Mid-term due***

Week 7: Oct 21, visitor Dr. James Veteto

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapters 16 & 18

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 7

Part 3: Case Studies

Week 8: Oct 28

Part 1: Ethnobiology Chapter 19 & Wolverton et al.

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 8

Part 3: Haskell October 29<sup>th</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup>

Week 9: Nov 4

Part 1: "Gary Paul Nabhan: A Portrait" & "Overture"

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 9

Part 3: Haskell November 21<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>

***Article Review 2 Due***

Week 10: Nov 11

Part 1: Nabhan: "Blending Field Science" & "Why Poetry Needs Science"

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 10

Part 3: Haskell January 1<sup>st</sup> to January 30<sup>th</sup>

Week 11: Nov 18, visitor Dr. Robert Figueroa

Part 1: Nabhan: "Why Science Needs Poetry"

Part 2: Diamond Chapter 11

Part 3: Haskell February 2<sup>nd</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup>

Week 12: Nov 25

Part 1: Nabhan: "How Metaphors Can Serve to Conserve"

Part 2: Ethnobiology Chapters 8 & 17

Part 3: Haskell March 13<sup>th</sup> to March 25<sup>th</sup>

Week 13: Dec 2

Part 1: Nabhan 2013

Part 2: Wolverton 2013

Part 3: Haskell April 2<sup>nd</sup> to April 29<sup>th</sup>

***Article Review 3 Due***

**Monday December 9 @ 1:30 Final Exam Due**

## **POLICIES**

### **EXTRA CREDIT**

The Department of Geography does not allow extra credit assignments (work not specified on a course syllabus).

### **ACCOMODATIONS**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

### **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for that particular assignment or exam. Additionally, the incident will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities for further penalty. According to the UNT catalog, the term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to: (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the university; (d) dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s); or (e) any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage. Altering a returned test and claiming a grader or scanning machine made an error is also considered cheating. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to: (a) the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment; and (b) the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

### **ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

Remember that you have agreed to follow the UNT Code of Student Conduct. "Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc." Again, the Code of Student Conduct can be found at [http://conduct.unt.edu/student\\_conduct](http://conduct.unt.edu/student_conduct).

### **CLASSROOM COURTESY**

Please follow these guidelines to avoid disrupting the class.

- (1) Turn off cell phones before arriving and do not text in class.
- (2) Do not arrive late or leave early (except for a bathroom break or emergency).
- (3) Do not sleep during class.
- (4) Do not work on other assignments during class.
- (5) Do not talk or whisper to neighbors (except for formal class interaction).

### **ATTENDANCE/TARDINESS POLICY**

After missing (excused or unexcused) 3 class periods a student will receive a WF (F if after the WF deadline) for the course. Students who are greater than 5 minutes late *should* come to class so as not to miss the material, but they will be counted absent for the period.

**MISSED-CLASS POLICY**

Neither the professor nor the TA re-teaches the course outside of lecture or lab; we are happy to answer questions, clarify content, and provide guidance for those who attend class and come in with informed questions after they have attempted the work themselves. Students who miss class must secure notes from another student in the class; notes will not be provided by the instructor.

**SUCCEED AT UNT**

The following six practices enhance student success.

- *Show Up*
- *Find Support*
- *Take Control*
- *Be Prepared*
- *Get Involved*
- *Be Persistent*

Please see [www.succeed.unt.edu](http://www.succeed.unt.edu) for more information