

## Arch 4620: Ethnobiology W 2 to 4:50

Dr. Steve Wolverton

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Office Hours: 1 to 2 pm MF

**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. There will be two academic papers/chapters and a popular literature reading assignment for each class. Half of each class period will be devoted to the Mandala Project.

### Reading Material

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

Sutton and Anderson 2014. *Introduction to Cultural Ecology*. Altamira, New York.

### Percentage Allocation

Discussion Participation = 20%

Attendance = 10%

Mandala Journal/fieldwork = 20%

Mandala Blogs = 20%

Paper Proposal Presentation = 10%

Final Presentation = 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, ≤ 59.4 = F

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

### per·fect

☒ *adj., n.* 'pɜrfɪkt; 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.*

### Mandala Project:

Half of each class period will be an immersion into the outdoor space near the Environmental Science Building. Each field session, students will visit their personal 1 x 1 m mandala and make journal observations concerning environmental and cultural change. Students will select one observation to compose a blog post about that will be turned in by the end of class an MS Word file. These will be

published on [meangreenmandala.blogspot.com](http://meangreenmandala.blogspot.com). Students will combine their observations with more details from research online during the final portion of class, which will be cited in the blogpost.

### **Course Outline**

Week 1: Jan 21

Introduction

Mandala selections

Week 2: Jan 28

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 1

Turner and Berkes 2006, Hunn 2014

Haskell: Preface, Partnerships

Journal/Blogpost 1

Week 3: Feb 4

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 2

Dombrosky and Wolverton 2014

Haskell: The Kepler's Gift, Experiment

Journal/Blogpost 2

Week 4: Feb 11

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 3

Rozzi 1999, Wolverton 2013

Haskell: Winter Plants, Footprints

Journal/Blogpost 3

Week 5: Feb 18

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 4

Wolverton et al. 2011

Haskell: Moss, Salamander

Journal/Blogpost 4

Week 6: Feb 25

Paper Proposal Presentations

Journal/Blogpost 5

Week 7: March 4

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 5

Haskell: Hepatica, Snails

Journal/Blogpost 6

Week 8: March 11

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 6

Grauel and Chambers 2014

Haskell: Spring Ephemerals, Chainsaw

Journal/Blogpost 7

March 18, No Class, Spring Break

Week 9: March 25

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 7

Turner et al. 2009

Haskell: Flowers, Xylem

Journal/Blogpost 8

Week 10: April 1

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 8

Dong et al. 2011

Haskell: Moth, Sunrise Birds

Journal/Blogpost 9

Week 11: April 8

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 9

Rafferty 1985

Haskell: Walking Seeds, Earthquake

Journal/Blogpost 10

April 15, Visiting Lecturer

Week 13: April 22

Sutton and Anderson, Chapter 10

Lertzman 2009

Haskell: Wind, Herbivory

Final Presentations

Week 14: April 29

Borgmann 2000

Wolverton et al. 2014

Nabhan 2004a

Haskell: Ripples, Quest

Week 15: May 6

Nabhan 2004b

Oelschlager 2000

Haskell: Ferns, A Tangle

**May 13 @ 1:30 Final Exam Period**

## **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.