

HISTORICAL ECOLOGY (Arch 4620, Geog 4885)
T-Th 2 to 3:20, ENV 360

Dr. Steve Wolverton
Office ENV 341, phone 940-565-4987
Email: Wolverton@unt.edu
Office Hours: 1 to 2 pm T-Th

Basic Information: Historical ecology is the study of the interactions between humans, biota, and landscapes at many temporal and spatial scales. This course is an exploration of historical ecology via biology, anthropology, geography, and at times archaeology. The course blends lecture and readings-based discussion using a variety literature resources.

Course Structure: Each week students will come having read the weekly materials, prepared for lecture and discussions. Student grades will be based on in class participation, unannounced pop quizzes over the readings, attendance, and take home exams.

Percentage Allocation

Attendance	10%
In class pop quizzes	5%
Discussion Exercises	15%
Final Notebook	10%
In class essay exams, n = 4	15% each

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).

Course outline

The course is divided into four blocks that correspond to major readings. Each block outline will be shared the week prior to when the block ends.

Discussion exercises

There will be one to two in-class group-discussion exercises each week, which are turned in at the end of the period.

Pop quizzes

Once per week there will be a pop quiz at the beginning of a period on the reading material for that week.

Essay exams

The week before the exam, students will be given four essay questions concerning material from the block. One or two of these will be randomly selected for the exam, which will be hand-written in class. Exams are open notebook but not open book, so make sure you keep notes on class discussions, lectures, and readings.

Final notebook

Note taking is an important skill for recording and retaining information. Students will takes notes in class and organize a course notebook in a 3-ring binder. The notebooks are graded for clarity, completeness, and organization.

POLICIES

EXTRA CREDIT

The Department of Geography and the Environment 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.

Drop Options for Lowest Exam Score

Students may drop their lowest exam score from the four exams if they visit the UNT Learning Center and take one of the Learning 101 Workshops <https://learningcenter.unt.edu/learning101>.

Please email me the title, time, and date of the workshop when you complete it to receive credit.

Additionally, to verify, the Learning Center will keep track of your attendance and provide record of which workshop you took.

The workshop must be taken before 5 pm on Friday, Nov 16th.