Ecology, Evolution, and Natural Resources -- Senior Capstone Course
11: 704: 499  1 credit

Location: TBD    Time: TBD

Instructors:  Dr. Dan Cariveau    Dr. David Ehrenfeld

Description:
This course will help you review, synthesize and articulate your academic and professional experience. In addition, Senior Capstone will help prepare you for the transition into the real world of finding jobs and dealing with life after graduation. You will learn how to present yourself, orally and in writing, in a way that will convince others of your value. A critical component of this course is peer review. You will critique each other's written and spoken assignments, and, most importantly, offer helpful suggestions. Providing and accepting valuable criticism is an important professional and life skill. Students will meet as a group in Hickman 115, and individually with instructors.

Course Outline:

Week 1:  September 3; Meet in Hickman 115

   In Class: Introduction to the class, Notes on Peer Review, Preparation of resumes, CV vs. Resume, Notes on where to find jobs, types of positions

Week 2:  September 10; Meet in Hickman 115

   Assignment Due Today: Resume to instructors and peers, Bring job ad or application to graduate school that you will respond to (email to instructors prior to class)

   In Class: Students peer-review resumes

Week 3:  September 17; Meet in Hickman 115

   In Class: Guest Lecture by Larry Jacobs from Career Center, Instructors will discuss assignment for next week.

Week 4:  September 24; Meet individually with instructors to review 2nd draft of resume

   Assignment due 24 hrs before meeting: email resumes and cover letters to the instructor with whom you will meet

Week 5:  October 1; Meet in Hickman 115

   In Class: Discussion on applying to graduate school
Week 6: October 8; Meet in Hickman 115

*In Class:* Guest Lecture by Barbara O'Neill, Extension Specialist in Personal Finance

Week 7: October 15; Meet in Hickman 115

*Assignment Due Today:* Updated resumes and cover letters/personal statements

*In Class:* Students peer-review resumes and cover letters/personal statements

Week 8: October 22; Meet individually with instructors to review resumes and cover letters/personal statements

Week 9: October 29; Meet in Hickman 115

*In Class:* Discussion about designing websites (Bring laptop!), start working on websites

Week 10: November 5; Meet in Hickman 115

*In Class:* Student reviews of websites (Bring laptop!)

Week 11 November 12; Meet individually with instructors to review website, resumes and cover letters/personal statements

*In meeting:* Discuss websites with instructor.

*Assignment due 24 hrs before meeting:* Email web site links to instructor,

Week 12: November 19: Hickman 115 (Dr. Cariveau out of town)

*In class:* Writing letters of recommendation, notes on how to best present yourself to potential employers

Week 13: December 3: Meet in Hickman 115

*Assignment due 24 hrs before class:* Prepare oral presentations; practice them at home. Email them to instructors.

Begin final oral presentations and peer reviews.

Week 14: December 10: Meet in Hickman 115

*In Class:* Complete oral presentations and peer reviews. Discuss capstone course.