

Ecology, Evolution and Natural Resources Senior Capstone Course
11:216:499

INSTRUCTORS

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124 ENR

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COURSE 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 thinking about your career trajectory. You will learn how to present yourself, orally and in writing, in a way that will convince others of your value. Along with individual critiques from your instructors, 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 ENR 123, and individually with instructors either via Zoom or in-person.

LEARNING GOALS

- **Communicate effectively orally in writing**
- **Effectively present your professional and academic accomplishments via resumés, personal websites and interviews**
- **Communicate professionally with potential employers and/or potential graduate advisors**

Grading: The goal of this course is to increase your skills in presenting yourself to employers and graduate school advisors. Therefore, we hope this motivates you to attend and participate. To pass the course, you will need to attend ***and*** participate in the class and during instructor meetings. ***Students with more than one unexcused absence will be dropped a letter grade.***

Resources: We will post lecture slides and other useful materials on Canvas.

*Tentative Schedule

**subject to change to accommodate alumni/employer visits*

Important Dates		Assignments
1/21	WEEK #1	
	Introduction to the class, notes on peer review, types of jobs & where to find them	<i>Visit job sites</i>
1/28	WEEK #2	
	Guest Speaker: Dr. Larry Jacobs from Career Exploration and Success	
2/4	WEEK #3	
	Career Options & Paths; Visits from Former Graduates	
2/11	WEEK #4	
	Guest Speaker from the Watershed Ambassador Program	
2/18	WEEK #5	
	Resume Peer Review	Bring resume draft & job ad (2 Print copies)
2/23		Upload revised resume to Canvas by 11:59pm
2/25	WEEK #6	
	Instructor Meetings (see schedule) to discuss resume	<i>Note: no full class meeting</i>
3/4	WEEK #7	
	Graduate School: What it's like and to apply Visits from Graduate Students	
3/11	WEEK #8	
	Writing Cover Letters and Personal Statements	
	Spring Break	
3/25	Week #9	
	Peer Review of Cover Letters/Personal Statements	Bring draft of cover letter & job announcement to class (2 Print copies)
3/30		Upload revised cover letter & resume to Canvas by 11:59pm
4/1	WEEK #10	
	Instructor Meetings to discuss cover letter & resume	<i>Note: no full class meeting</i>
4/8	WEEK #11	
	Discussion on web presence: X/BlueSky, LinkedIn, Facebook & personal websites	
		Upload website link by 4/14
4/15	WEEK #12	
	Instructor Meetings to discuss websites	<i>Note: no full class meeting</i>
4/22	WEEK #13	
	Preparing for job interviews	
4/29	WEEK # 14 Zoom	
	Mock interviews by appointment	Practice your ice breaker & 2 achievement stories