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RECM 371.01: Wilderness Issues Lecture Series

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Wilderness Issues Lecture Series

RECM 371/EVST 371
Spring 2010
1.0 credit

Tuesdays, 7:10-8:30 PM
JRH 205

Course Logistics

- Lectures begin at 7:10 PM, please be prompt and do not leave until the question/answer session is over
- The course is P/NP, you will need to pass 6 papers to pass the course (*see paper assignment below*)
- This series is not open to the public, but guests are welcome if you notify the course instructor in advance.

Instructor, Course Grader, and Series Coordinator

Nicky Phear, Wilderness and Civilization Program Coordinator and Instructor
nicky.phear@umontana.edu, 243-6932
Office Hours: By appointment, Main Hall 307

Course Description

Themes and speakers for the Wilderness Issues Lecture Series vary year by year, and the course can be repeated three times for credit. The 2010 Wilderness Issues Lecture Series was crafted based on the interests of current Wilderness and Civilization students. It will include a collection of dynamic speakers on topics ranging from local foods to sustainability, and from nature writing to human/wildlife dynamics. Speakers include notable regional and national leaders, such as the former Forest Service Chief, Executive Director of the Biomimicry Institute, and renowned local authors and community advocates. The class will involve a twenty- to fifty-minute lecture each week followed by discussion. Students must come prepared with some understanding of the speaker and his/her expertise, and be prepared to engage discussion each evening.

Reaction Papers

Students are required to write reaction papers in response to each lecture. Passing papers must:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the lecture/discussion and material presented
- Provide an analysis, thoughtful examination, or critique of the material presented
- Be well-written (grammatically correct) and well-organized

Do not simply summarize or restate the lecture in your paper. You must provide your own analysis and demonstrate some original thinking. You do not need to be comprehensive and address every aspect of the lecture/discussion. You may focus on several specific points in depth.

Reaction papers need to be type-written and double-spaced (1-2 pages) (reused/recycled paper is fine). Each paper is graded pass, pass minus, pass plus, or fail. **Students must pass 6 papers to pass the course** (keep in mind that there are only 6 lectures and so you must attend each lecture). You may rewrite failed papers within one week of the paper being returned to you. Rewrites must include correction of any errors AND substantive improvement in content.

Papers must be turned in at the end of the following lecture. Graded papers turned in the previous week will be returned at that time. If you are sick or have an unexpected emergency, you must notify Nicky Phear and turn your paper to her office (Main Hall 307) in by 5:00 PM Wednesday. If papers are not turned in by 5:00 PM Wednesday, you will receive a fail for that paper.

KEEP IN MIND: If you miss class, you will fail the response paper due for that speaker – there is no way to make up a missed lecture. If you miss class and fail to turn in your response paper on the speaker from the week before (which you can turn in before class or by Wednesday at 5:00 PM), you will then fail two papers. If there is absolutely no way you can make one of the lectures, you need to let Nicky know in advance and work out an alternate assignment.

Please note that papers need to be original works, not collaborative efforts between students. Feel free to discuss the lectures with your peers, but written reaction papers must be individual compositions.

Course Schedule

1/27 **No class**

2/2 **Josh Slotnick**, PEAS Farm Director and Lecturer for UM's Program in Ecological Agriculture and Society (PEAS). Slotnick will present his classic lecture, "Coffee, Beer, Pastry".

2/9 **David Gilcrest**, Adjunct UM English Professor, Poet and Critic with a Ph.D. in Composition and Rhetoric from the University of Oregon, and author of *Greening the Lyre: Environmental Poetics and Ethics*. Gilcrest will provide a reading and discussion related to humans, nature and language.

2/16 **Dale Bosworth**, Former Chief of the Forest Service and Regional Forester for the Northern Region. Bosworth will provide a 20-minute talk followed by discussion.

2/23 **Bryony Schwan**, Executive Director of the Biomimicry Institute and National Sustainability Advocate. Schwan will discuss how humans can live sustainably on this planet by learning from and then emulating natural forms, processes, and ecosystems to create more sustainable and healthier human technologies and designs.

3/2 **No Lecture**

3/9 **No Lecture**

3/16 **Jamie Jonkel**, Wildlife Conflict Specialist for Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks. Jonkel will talk about bears, their habits/ecology/status, and some of the ways managers and rural land owners have been able to reduce human/bear conflicts.

3/23 **Phil Condon**, Associate Professor in Environmental Studies, Director of the Environmental Writing Institute, and Faculty Advisor to Camus. Condon will provide a reading from his book, *Montana Surround: Land, Water, Nature and Place*, followed by discussion.

3/30 **No Lecture** – Spring Break

4/6 **No Lecture**

4/13 **Wrap up Grubshed Potluck**, dine over and discuss local foods and local WWOOF opportunities with Sarah Potenza and other guests TBA. Note this is not a formal lecture and cannot serve as one of the classes for which you write a reaction paper.