

Course Syllabus – FALL 2018

GLOBAL to LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY BIOL 647 (74877) and NRM 647 (74058)

Course Information Location: AHRB 183 Meeting Time: Tu/Th, 2:00-3:30

Instructor: Sarah Trainor, 370 O'Neill Building; sarah.trainor@alaska.edu, office: 907.474.7878.
Office Hours by appointment

Course Description

This course explores key elements of sustainability science in order to give students a strong foundations for graduate studies and for applying their graduate research to solving important real-world problems. Central topics to be covered include: knowledge co-production; translational ecology; linking science and decision-making; the importance and challenge of cross-scale interactions and feedbacks, multiple stressors, adaptation, indicators of sustainability and evaluating sustainability outcomes. A key theme of the course will be research on Sustainability in Alaska and the Arctic, including adaptation to climate change. The course format will include lectures and guest-lectures, but will focus on student lead discussions of required course readings. The course is designed to address sustainability from a range of trans- and inter-disciplinary perspectives. Students from a range of departments are welcome.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who are successful in this class will learn:

- How to read, review, and lead a discussion on peer-reviewed published literature

By the end of this class, students will:

- Be able to synthesize interdisciplinary peer-reviewed literature related to sustainability.
- Be able to critically discuss the interdisciplinary complexities of sustainability in the Arctic.
- Be able to critically discuss linkages between science and decision-making from the perspective of sustainability.
- Understand the importance and complexities of knowledge co-production

Assignments/Grades/Requirements

You are expected to complete all of the assigned readings in advance of the class for which they are assigned and to come to every class prepared to discuss these readings.

The following grading scale will apply:

A - 90 to 100 (A- 90-91; A+ 99-100)
B - 80 to 89 (B- 80-81; B+ 88-89)
C - 70 to 79 (C- 70-71; C+ 78-79)
D - 60 to 69 (D- 60-61; D+ 68-69)
F - < 60

You will be graded on a combination of:

- 10% - Contributions to ALL class discussions
- 15% - Leading of select class discussions
- 10% - Homework and one page reading summary/reflection papers as assigned
- 10% - Abstract and annotated outline for final paper
- 15% - Presentation of Final Paper
- 40% - Final Paper

Assignments handed in after the due dates will receive reduced credit. You are expected to abide by the student code of conduct (see below) for all assignments.

Contributions to Class Discussion (10%)

You are expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings and topic as outlined in the course schedule. This is true also for class sessions in which you are not a designated presenter. You are expected to contribute constructively to these discussions and to the collective decision-making process and to be respectful of the instructor and class-mates in contributing to all class discussions in thoughtful and meaningful ways. When guest lectures are scheduled, you are expected to complete assigned readings and come prepared with 2-3 questions for discussion with the speaker.

Leading Select Class Discussions (15%)

Students will be responsible for organizing, presenting material, and assist in leading discussion about readings. This involves presenting the main points and key concepts of the readings, presenting your thoughtful response, and facilitating a discussion. Do you agree with the author's main points? If so, why? If not, why not? In what ways are the ideas and concepts presented novel, or interesting? How do they connect with other material in the course (both readings and interview results)? Are there any key points or elements for consideration that are missing in the readings?

One Page Reading Summaries/Reflection Papers (10%)

In this assignment you should demonstrate that you have read the assigned readings and present your analysis of the reading through the lens of critical thinking. Think of these papers as a first draft of a literature review for the Final Paper.

Abstract and Annotated Outline for Final Paper (10%)

This assignment is designed to help you get a jump start on writing your final paper. Details TBD.

Final Paper Presentation (15%)

Each student will present their final paper. Details TBD.

Final Paper (40%)

Details TBD based on class composition and interests.

Adaptation

The course schedule may be adjusted to meet student enrollment, student interests, and the scheduling needs of guest lectures. Revisions to the schedule will be posted on Blackboard. You are responsible for following announcements on Blackboard to receive these revisions.

Instructional Methods

The course will use a combination of lectures, student lead discussions, and guest speakers. This class is interactive, relying on strong student contribution. Students are expected to contribute to a respectful and productive atmosphere that encourages this joint class exploration of course themes.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes. If it is necessary to miss a class, contact the instructors beforehand to inform them of your plans and request guidance on how to make up missed classroom learning. We encourage students to join the class remotely if on travel. Remote access is available via Zoom and telephone. Details pasted below. Missed classes will be reflected in your participation grade.

Student Code of Conduct

According to the UAF code of conduct "Students will not collaborate on any quizzes, in-class exams, or take-home exams that will contribute to their grade in a course, unless the instructor of the course grants permission.... Students will not represent the work of others as their own. A student will attribute the source of information not original with himself or herself (direct quotes or paraphrases) in compositions, theses, and other reports.... No work submitted for one course may be submitted for credit in another course without the explicit approval of both instructors....." Students are expected to abide by the UAF code of conduct.

An explanation of plagiarism and how to properly cite sources are available at the following two sites:

<http://library.uaf.edu/lis101-plagiarism>

<http://library.uaf.edu/lis101-citing>

Plagiarism is grounds for course failure.

UAF Policies Disabilities Services

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is committed to providing equal access for students with disabilities. The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. We will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474-5655) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you have a physical or learning disability, please advise us in writing of any special consideration necessary by the beginning of the second class. We will do everything possible to accommodate you in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Priority seating close to the board and screen is provided for students who need to be in close proximity to the board.

Blackboard & Distance Delivery

We will use the UAF Blackboard site for this course to send emails and post readings, assignments and other materials. Blackboard can be accessed at <https://classes.alaska.edu/> . Email notification through Blackboard will not work for a non-UAF email address. **If you principally use a non-UAF email service, (such as yahoo) go to your UAF account and forward your UAF email to that address. You are responsible for all emails sent to your UAF email account.** Blackboard resources, links and support information are available at the UAF Blackboard homepage.

Remote Access

Students in the course may be based in Fairbanks and other sites. Students not located in Fairbanks can connect to the class via Zoom from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android. If you require remote access or are away from town without internet access, contact the instructor. For questions with Zoom connections, contact Steve Peterson: (907) 474 – 7053, slpeterson@alaska.edu.

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/650583449>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +16699006833,,650583449# or +16468769923,,650583449#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) or +1 877 369 0926 (Toll Free)

Meeting ID: 650 583 449

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/bltsl6n41>

Or an H.323/SIP room system:

H.323:

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

221.122.88.195 (China)

115.114.131.7 (India)

213.19.144.110 (EMEA)

202.177.207.158 (Australia)

209.9.211.110 (Hong Kong)

64.211.144.160 (Brazil)

69.174.57.160 (Canada)

Meeting ID: 650 583 449

SIP: 650583449@zoomcrc.com