SEMINAR: WILLAMETTE RIVERSCAPE – GEOG 607

Winter 2014 Term, University of Oregon, 4 credits
Course Registration Number: 28031
Lecture: 9:00am – 11:50am Fridays, 207 CON
Instructor: Mark Fonstad, Condon 107F, fonstad@uoregon.edu, 541-346-4208
Instructor Office Hours: 1:00pm – 2:00pm Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment

This seminar will survey modern research on the Willamette riverscape, and work to place these research activities into the context of the overall history and spatial patterning of the Willamette River’s environment. We will have three overarching goals as we review the research.

(1) To put modern Willamette riverscape research into the context of the overall history, processes, forms, and functions of the Willamette River.

(2) To connect the history and geography of the Willamette’s physical environment with modern human-environmental issues, and with the associated areas of knowledge that are being actively researched in dealing with these issues.

(3) To explore the best ways to connect modern Willamette riverscape research to education and outreach towards a broader audience.

REQUIRED READINGS
There is no overall textbook for this seminar. Weekly readings are from published articles and some printed material and will be distributed electronically to the class via Blackboard.

GRADES
This seminar is a Pass/No-Pass Only course. The determination of Pass/No-Pass will be based on the following components: (1) class participation, measured in terms of active engagement with weekly readings and discussion in class, (2) a term project on some aspect of the Willamette riverscape as defined by the instructor. A “Pass” for this course requires satisfactory effort for both of these components. As part of the class participation expectations, individual students will lead the discussions of the various assigned publications. All students are expected to read and discuss each of the readings, even if they are not the assigned lead for that particular publication.

FIELD TRIPS
This class will have associated field trips in support of the weekly reading materials. These field trips are not required, but they are strongly encouraged, and early in the term I will be asking students to make a decision on whether they will attend these field trips so that we can make logistical plans.

LATE/MAKE-UP WORK
Late work will not be accepted and make-up work will not be assigned, except in extreme circumstances and where you have documentation (i.e. doctor’s note). If you must miss a project deadline due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, you MUST notify the instructor prior to missing if possible.
DISABILITY SERVICES NOTICE
I work hard to ensure a quality learning experience for all students. If you need specific accommodations to get the most out of this class, please let me know by (1) informing me of your particular needs, and (2) providing the appropriate documentation from the campus learning services office. I will make every effort to accommodate your needs, but you must notify me by the first week of class if you need special arrangements.

NOTE: I consider this syllabus a contract between myself and the students in this course. In writing this syllabus, I have obligated myself to follow the policies and procedures contained herein. You are responsible for understanding and following these policies as well. I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus. You will receive verbal and written notification of major changes to course policies, procedures and content.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

January 10
(1) Seminar Overview, Project Choices, Field Trip Planning

January 17
(1) Atlas of Oregon, pages 132-147
(2) Oregon: A Geologic History Website:
   http://www.oregongeology.org/sub/publications/ims/ims-028/tectonics.htm

January 24

January 31


February 7

February 14

February 21

February 28

March 7
Willamette water 2100: river basins as complex social-ecological systems. In The Sustainable City VII 1: 575-586. (and also see http://envision.bioe.orst.edu/StudyAreas/WW2100/WW2100.htm)


**March 14**
Term Project Presentations

*Term Project due Thursday, March 20, 10:15am*