ENVS 199: College Connections  
Fall 2012, CRN: 17379  
Friday, 12noon – 12:50 p.m., Anstett 191

FIG Instructor:  
Jason Schreiner, jschrein@uoregon.edu  
Office: 57 PLC, 541-346-3484; Office Hours: M 2-3pm, Th 3-4pm, & by appt.

FIG Assistant:  
Alexandra Mink, mink@uoregon.edu  
Office: 305 Hamilton-Burgess; Office Hours: T 2-3pm & by appt.

Other Courses in FIG:  
ENVS 201: Intro. To Environmental Studies: Social Sciences  
(Professor Galen Martin; GTF Collin Eaton)  
PHIL 110: Human Nature  
(Professor Alejandro Vallega; GTF Jonathan Langseth)

FIG Course Site:  
https://blogs.uoregon.edu/jbnfig

COURSE DESCRIPTION  
Our course is designed to introduce you to life as a student scholar at the University of Oregon, and to challenge you to reflect on the role of ethics (justice) and aesthetics (beauty) in how we perceive and interact with the more-than-human environment. We will introduce you to life as a student scholar by helping you develop essential academic survival skills, providing you with a support network, answering your questions about how the university works, challenging you to learn purposefully, and encouraging you to make the most of your university experience.

We will also explore the role of justice and beauty by drawing on topics form your two FIG courses and, through discussion and reflection, connect them in a meaningful and useful way. In addition, we will challenge you to apply the concepts you are learning in a real-world context, through the creation of a short multimedia production that documents your interaction with a particular local environment.

COURSE OBJECTIVES  
By the end of the term, if you invest your time and energy in this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Prepare work in accordance with acceptable university standards
- Participate comfortably in a class discussion and in individual interactions with faculty members
- Present material to the class in a relaxed and professional manner
- Use the Knight Library and current technology for research and other academic purposes
- Use good study habits and time-management skills
- Identify your degree goals and plan a practical path to completion of your degree
- Engage your peers and instructors as active enquirers and learners
- Recognize connections between courses in different disciplines and apply relevant concepts in these courses to your own life
- Collaborate with others to develop quality multimedia materials and share them with the world
**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**
This course is offered on a Pass/No Pass basis. To pass the class, you must:

1. Attend and participate in at least eight of out nine class sessions. If you miss more than one class session, you must schedule a make-up meeting with Alexandra. Permission should be sought in advance of any absence. Three late arrivals will count as one absence.
2. Meet one-on-one with Alexandra at least twice during the term. Your first meeting must take place by the end of Week 3 (October 12). It is your responsibility to arrange meeting times with Alexandra.
3. Meet during office hours with at least one of your Professors and at least one of your Graduate Teaching Fellows in both PHIL 110 and ENVS 201 by the end of Week 7 (November 9). For example, you might meet with Professor Martin (ENVS 201) and GTF Langseth (PHIL 110) or with Professor Vallega (PHIL 110) and GTF Eaton (ENVS 201). You will need to obtain their signatures on an office hour visit form.
4. Attend at least one field trip, either on October 13 or October 20. If you cannot attend either day, contact us as soon as possible to arrange an alternative.
5. Complete a Library Integration Project in a satisfactory manner by the end of Week 4 (October 19). More information about this assignment will be provided in class.
6. Complete a Two-Year Academic Plan in a satisfactory manner by the end of Week 6 (November 2). More information about this assignment will be provided in class.
7. Complete a Team Documentary Project in a satisfactory manner by the end of Week 10 (November 30). More information about this assignment will be provided in class.

**COURSE POLICIES**

**Academic Integrity**
The University Student Conduct Code (available at conduct.uoregon.edu) defines academic misconduct. Students are prohibited from committing or attempting to commit any act that constitutes academic misconduct. By way of example, students should not give or receive (or attempt to give or receive) unauthorized help on assignments or examinations without express permission from the instructor. Students should properly acknowledge and document all sources of information (e.g. quotations, paraphrases, ideas) and use only the sources and resources authorized by the instructor. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the student’s obligation to clarify the question with the instructor before committing or attempting to commit the act. Please contact us with any questions you have about academic conduct. Remember, if you are in doubt, ask for clarification! Additional information about a common form of academic misconduct, plagiarism, is available at http://library.uoregon.edu/guides/plagiarism/students/index.html.

**Accessibility**
The University of Oregon is working to create inclusive learning environments. Please notify me if there are aspects of this course that result in disability related barriers to your participation. For more information or assistance, you are also encouraged to contact the following campus services:

- **Accessible Education Center** (formerly Disability Services), 164 Oregon Hall, 541-346-1155; website: http://aec.uoregon.edu/
- **University Counseling and Testing Center**, Health Center 2nd Floor, 541-346-3227; website: http://counseling.uoregon.edu/dnn/
- **Teaching and Learning Center**, 68 Prince Lucien Campbell, 541-346-3226; website: http://tlc.uoregon.edu/
Classroom Courtesy
Please arrive in class on time and ready to engage in learning. This entails turning off your cell phone and other electronic devices. You are welcome to take notes on your laptop provided it doesn’t become a distraction to others or a barrier for your active listening and participation in discussion.

Deadlines, Extensions, Incompletes
Assignments and other work are due before or on the dates specified in the course calendar. Extensions or incompletes will be given only in the event of documented emergencies. You must notify us as soon as possible if you experience an emergency that will prevent you from completing an assignment on time. Variations of the assignment requirements may be necessary for work that is late.

Diversity
The University of Oregon is dedicated to the principles of equal opportunity and freedom from unfair discrimination for all members of the university community and an acceptance of true diversity as an affirmation of individual identity within a welcoming community. Freedom of thought and expression is the bedrock principle on which university activity is based. This course is committed to upholding these principles by encouraging the exploration, engagement, and expression of distinct perspectives and diverse identities. Please notify us if you feel aspects of the course undermine these principles in any way. You may also notify First-Year Programs at 541-346-1131. For additional assistance and resources, you are also encouraged to contact the following campus services:

- Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, 1 Johnson Hall, 541-346-3175; website: http://oied.uoregon.edu/
- Center on Diversity and Community, 54 Susan Campbell Hall, 541-346-3212; website: http://codac.uoregon.edu/
- Bias Response Team, 164 Oregon Hall, 541-346-1134 or brt@uoregon.edu; website: http://bias.uoregon.edu

Inclement Weather
In the event of inclement weather, the UO website will prominently display information about closure decisions on the main homepage (www.uoregon.edu). Local television and radio media will be notified as well. Unless the university closes, faculty members not able to travel to campus to convene their classes have the responsibility of attempting to notify students in a timely way that they will not be holding class. In the event of a last-minute cancellation, for any reason, we will contact First-Year Programs as the first point of contact, and through Blackboard, send an email to all students.
**COURSE CALENDAR** (subject to change – all changes will be announced in class and via email)

**Week 1**
Friday, September 28
*Topic:* Course Purpose and Expectations  
*Reading:* Cronon, “‘Only Connect...’” [www.williamcronon.net/writing/Cronon_Only_Connect.pdf](http://www.williamcronon.net/writing/Cronon_Only_Connect.pdf)  
*Due:* Questions about course syllabi (ENVS 201, PHIL 110)  
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*Group Fun:* Pizza on the Memorial Quadrangle, 4:30-5:30pm

**Week 2**
Friday, October 5
*Topic:* Human Impact and the Environment  
*Due:* Field Trip Sign Up

**Week 3**
Friday, October 12
*Topic:* Library Research [*meet in Edmiston Classroom, 144 Knight Library*]  
*Due:* 1st Meeting with Alexandra; Team Project Topic  
Saturday, October 13
*Field Trip:* Lane County Farmers Market

**Week 4**
Friday, October 19
*Topic:* Justice and the Environment  
*Due:* Library Integration Project  
Saturday, October 20
*Field Trip:* River Road Neighborhood sustainability tour

**Week 5**
Friday, October 26
*Topic:* Academic Advising  
*Due:* Tentative course selections for Academic Plan

**Week 6**
Friday, November 2
*Topic:* Beauty and the Environment  
*Due:* Two-Year Academic Plan

**Week 7**
Friday, November 9
*Topic:* Multimedia Production  
*Due:* Instructor Office Hour Visit Forms  
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*Group Fun:* Documentary Movie Night in Columbia 142, 4-6pm

**Week 8**
Friday, November 16
*Topic:* Action and the Environment  
*Due:* Team Documentary Project Outline

**Week 9**
Friday, November 23
NO CLASS – Thanksgiving Holiday

**Week 10**
Friday, November 30
*Topic:* Where I’m At & What I’ve Learned  
*Due:* Team Documentary Project