

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES 187
INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
SPRING 2015**

Class Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 1:30pm – 2:45pm, Saturday Field Trips
Instructor: Miranda Melen
Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10:30am – 11:30am, or by appointment
Office: WSQ 115B
Email: miranda.melen@sjsu.edu
Course Website: available on Canvas
Course Units: 4 (= 12 hours per week)
Prerequisites: 100W, GE B2, or consent of the instructor

COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course is designed to introduce you to the interdisciplinary art and science of environmental restoration. Scientific restoration efforts date back to the prairie restorations begun in the 1930s at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum. But only recently has restoration been recognized as an important scientific, political, and public endeavor. Although the physical restoration of a site is usually based on our technical knowledge of ecological systems, successful restoration efforts often include economic, policy, regulatory, and public participation elements.

Interest in restoration has been spurred by at least two developments:

1. Government regulations have required that project proponents compensate (“mitigate”) for damage they cause to the environment, and
2. The public has recognized that, in order to preserve endangered species and improve our living environment, we need to restore habitats that have been degraded or destroyed.

The San Francisco Bay Area is a hotbed of restoration projects and some of the best restorationists in the world work here. Many different habitats have been restored in our regional area, and we will study a number of them.

This course provides an overview of:

- The ecological principles that form the basis of the field of restoration
- The theory and practice of restoration
- The design, implementation, and monitoring of restoration projects
- The policy and economic factors that affect and direct restoration
- The importance of public participation
- The current challenges in restoration practice and science

COURSE FORMAT

This is a lecture/field course that requires extensive reading and research outside of the classroom.

This is a four-unit course, which means you are expected to devote 12 hours of work per week to this class through participation in the classroom, field trips, homework, and independent study.

You must prepare for each class session by doing the appropriate readings or work. You will be working within the body of knowledge of the fields of ecology and restoration, and will conduct independent research as well as work in a group to conduct a case study of a local restoration project.

A group presentation in the field is the culmination of this work. Finally, two tests will allow you to show off your knowledge of the materials covered in class.

ASSIGNMENTS

The table below is a *tentative* list of assignments for the class. Assignments may be changed, added, or deleted as needed. You must come to class to keep up to date with the assignments. This class is time consuming and difficult, because it covers so much material in preparation for more advanced work in Advanced Restoration and your professional career. Your effort in this course and understanding of the material will be evaluated in weekly quizzes, a series of group assignments, exams, case studies, and attendance at field trips as follows:

Assignment	Point Value
Ecosystem Summary	50
Literature Review	50
Group Outline	100
Group Paper, draft 1	200
Group Paper, final draft	200
Group Map & Directions	25
Group Powerpoint Slides	50
Group Presentation	100
Group Field Trip	400
Group Methodology, draft 1	100
Group Methodology, final draft	100
Group Methodology, data sheets	50
Group Teaching, Field Methods	200
2 Case Studies	200
Quizzes (15 @ 25 points each)	375
2 Midterm Exams (2 @ 150 points)	300
Final Exam	200
Total	2,700 points

REQUIRED TEXTS

Greipsson, Sigurdur. 2011. *Restoration Ecology*. Jones & Bartlett Learning, LLC. Sudbury, MA.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Library Liaison

Peggy Cabrera is our liaison for Environmental Studies. Reach her at: peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. This can be a source of great help.
<http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

CLASS POLICY

Late Assignments:

All assignments are due on the day that they are listed. One assignment may be turned in up to one class meeting late with no penalty. The second assignment turned in late will be penalized 30% (from the total score earned). The 3rd late assignment will be penalized 60% (from the total score earned). If you turn in 4 or more assignments late you will not pass this class.

Field Trips:

Field trips are an essential part of this course. You may miss one field trip without penalty. If you miss two field trips, your grade will go down a full letter grade. Students who miss three field trips will not pass this course.

Grading:

Grades are determined according to this scale:

98-100% = A+	88-89% = B+	78-79% = C+	60-69% = D
92-97% = A	83-87% = B	72-77% = C	59 and below = F
90-91% = A-	80-81% = B-	70-71% = C-	

Your grade will be accessible via Canvas.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

Academic integrity

You should know that the University's Academic Integrity Policy is available at www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S04-12.pdf. Your own commitment to learning, as evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University and the University's integrity policy, require you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The website for Student Conduct and Ethical Development is available at www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include in your assignment any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy F06-1 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the DRC (Disability Resource Center) to establish a record of their disability.

Policy S12-3 regarding Definition of the Credit Hour

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Policy S12-7 regarding Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

Common courtesy and professional behavior dictate that you notify someone when you are recording him/her. You must obtain the instructor's permission to make audio or video recordings in this class. Such permission allows the recordings to be used for your private, study purposes only. The recordings are the intellectual property of the instructor; you have not been given any rights to reproduce or distribute the material.

- Video recordings may not be taken of this class.
- Audio recordings are permissible, but may not be reproduced or distributed.

Course material developed by the instructor is the intellectual property of the instructor and cannot be shared publicly without his/her approval. You may not publicly share or upload instructor-generated material for this course such as exam questions, lecture notes, or homework solutions without instructor consent.