BIO 830P Great Plains Heritage
Spring Semester 2013

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Course Description:
This course will provide an overview of the natural history, ecology, and culture of the Great Plains region from a scientific and a historical perspective. Great Plains literature will also be incorporated into the course in order to enhance the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the Great Plains by each participant.


Available from Antelope Bookstore (www.loperbooks.com)

BASIC COURSE OUTLINE

SESSION 1 - Introduction
Geology/Climate/Climate Change

SESSION 2 - Plant Communities

SESSION 3 - Prairie Glossary/Prairie Fauna

SESSION 4 - The Prairie Below Ground

SESSION 5 - People of the Plains – Native Americans

SESSION 6 - The Western Trails

SESSION 7 - The Old West

SESSION 8 - Settlement of the Plains

SESSION 9 - Gender on the Plains

SESSION 10- Buffalo Commons

SESSION 11- Natural Resources

SESSION 12- Problems on the Plains (Water; Toxic Substances, etc.)
SESSION 13- Solomon Butcher and Wright Morris; Prairie Photographers

SESSION 14- The Future of the Plains

SESSION 15- Popular (Pop) Culture of the Plains

Course Grading and Policies

Points: For this semester:
7 on-line quizzes/assignments @ 10 points each.. 70 pts.
3 on-line exams @ 110 points each ......................... 330
*On-line discussion (5 pts. per week maximum)......... 75
2 papers/assigned writings @ 75 points each .......... 150
Total: 625 pts.

*(Approximately 5 pts. per week will be awarded for posting your comments, impressions, etc. on the course topic of the week.)

Grading: In this course, we will follow the standard university grading system where grades are assigned as follows:

- A = 92-100%
- A- = 90-91%
- B+ = 88-89%
- B = 82-87%
- B- = 80-81%
- C+ = 78-79%
- C = 72-77%
- C- = 70-71%
- D+ = 68-69%
- D = 62-67%
- D- = 60-61%
- F = below 60%

Papers. All course assignments are to be submitted as email attachments in Microsoft Word format. Always use Microsoft Word .doc for all papers! It is **essential** that I will be able to open your assignments. **Other** specific criteria and detailed instructions concerning topics, length, style, etc. will be covered on future communications.

Student Code of Conduct

As is standard procedure in all university classes, Biology 830 follows the rules and procedures outlined in the UNK STUDENT HANDBOOK. The Student Code of Conduct is outlined on pages 31-39. We remind the student that cheating, plagiarism, abuse of academic materials and/or equipment (see ARTICLE VI - Academic Integrity, p. 38) will not be tolerated and the penalties for these violations can be severe.
Plagiarism is the taking of ideas, writings, etc. and passing them off as one's own. All academic work will be done by the student to whom it is assigned, without unauthorized aid of any kind. In all cases of academic dishonesty, the first offense will result in the student's receiving an "F" in the course, and the second offense will result in the termination of the student's enrollment in the University.

**Students with Disabilities**

The university is committed to providing support for students with disabilities. If you are a student with physical, learning, emotional, or psychological disabilities you are encouraged to contact David Brandt, the Disabilities Coordinator at 308-865-8214 or by email at brandtdl@unk.edu.

To the greatest extent possible, University Representatives, shall observe confidentiality with respect to any request for accommodation.
Some Selected References:

Cather, Willa. *My Antonia.*

Cather, Willa. *O' Pioneers.*

Hickey, D.R. *Nebraska Moments: Glimpses of Nebraska’s Past.*

Leopold, Aldo. *A Sand County Almanac.*


Mattes, Merrill. *The Great Platte River Road.*


Parkman, Francis. *The Oregon Trail.*

Reichmann, O. J. *Konza Prairie: A Tallgrass Natural History.*

Rolvaag, O.E. *Giants in the Earth.*

Sandoz, Mari. *Love Song to the Plains.*

Sandoz, Mari. *Crazy Horse.*
