Instructor: Stuart Livingstone, PhD
email: stuart.w.livingstone@gmail.com
Office: SW542
Office hours: Tuesdays 11:00-1:00, EV344 (just let me know in advance if you’d like to meet)
TA: Andrew Apostoli (Andrew.apostoli@mail.utoronto.ca)

EES3001H: Professional Scientific Literacy (Winter 2018) BV363, Tuesdays 9-11

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Conservation practitioners employ a range of tools that fall under the umbrella of Scientific Literacy. In order to prepare for a career in conservation science or conservation management, it is vital that students develop science literacy skills. It is the goal of this course that students develop 1) a clear understanding of the scientific process & quantitative analysis, 2) the ability to communicate the science of conservation to different audiences, 3) the ability to think critically about conservation issues, how they are studied, and how they are discussed in public discourse, and 4) the ability to place individual studies and issues in the larger context of biodiversity conservation.

SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture subject</th>
<th>Guest talk</th>
<th>Assignment due</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 9th</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 16th</td>
<td>Invasive Species Summit Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Schindler et al 2016; Schindler 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 6th</td>
<td>Blogging/Summit Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td>Press release</td>
<td>Underwood Ch. 2 &amp; 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13th</td>
<td>Study design &amp; research methods</td>
<td></td>
<td>Summit updates/blog</td>
<td>Underwood Ch. 4 &amp; 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20th</td>
<td>Reading Week</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 27th</td>
<td>Hypothesis testing &amp; basic stats</td>
<td>Cass Stabler (Parks Canada)</td>
<td>Summit updates</td>
<td>Mauradian &amp; Rival 2012; TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 6th</td>
<td>Ecosystem Services Science</td>
<td>Jay Porter (Ontario Cabinet Office)</td>
<td>Abstract-to-methods</td>
<td>Sullivan 2017; TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 13th</td>
<td>In-class discussion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20th</td>
<td>Funding proposals/Summit Planning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 27th</td>
<td>practice presentations</td>
<td></td>
<td>Term paper due</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Invasive Species Summit</td>
<td></td>
<td>Presentations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EVALUATION

Assignments:
- Article synopsis/contrast: (10%)
- Press release (10%)
- Blog post (10%)
- Abstract-to-methods: (10%)
- Group paper & presentation for Invasive Species Summit (40%)
- Participation (20%)

Evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the Graduate Grading and Evaluation Practices Policy (and how that policy is interpreted and applied in this Dept.)
http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/uniassgpp.htm

COURSE POLICIES

READINGS
You are expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class. This will provide a contextual grounding for in-class discussions. There is no assigned textbook for this course.

Required Readings and Lecture Notes: Electronic versions of required readings and lecture notes will be placed on the Blackboard course website immediately after the lecture. In the case of primary literature, a link to the library electronic version will be provided. Posting of the presentations of guest lectures will be at the discretion of the guest.

EMERGENCY PLANNING
Students are advised to consult the university’s preparedness site (http://www.preparedness.utoronto.ca) for information and regular updates regarding procedures relating to emergency planning.

ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS
The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact The UTSC Accessibility Services as soon as possible:
http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~ability/
We also suggest you also refer to the following University of Toronto Scarborough Library link:
http://utsc.library.utoronto.ca/services-persons-disabilities

PLAGIARISM
University of Toronto code of Behaviour on Academic Matters states that "it shall be an offense for a student knowingly: to represent as one's own any idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e., to commit plagiarism."

For accepted methods of standard documentation formats, including electronic citation of internet sources please see the UofT writing website at:
http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/documentation

The full Code of Behaviour regulations could be found from consulting http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/facultyandstaff/Pages/Academic-Integrity.aspx
WRITING AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE
As well as the faculty writing support, please see English Language and writing support at University of Toronto: http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/English-Language-and-Writing-Support.aspx

Students have commented that they found the latter address extremely helpful for writing term papers.
The following are also useful:

LATE WORK
Assignments must be handed in at the beginning of class. A penalty of 10% per day, including weekend days, will be incurred for late assignments.