



VirginiaTech®

College of Natural Resources
and Environment

Undergraduate Student News

CNRE • FALL 2017 COURSE REQUEST

THE ADVISING CENTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fall 2017 Special Courses	2
Fall '17 Course Up- dates	5
Study abroad opportunities	6
Important Notes	9
Dates & Deadlines	11

Ready For Course Request?

Course Request for the Fall 2017 semester will be open March 21-28.

The online timetable will also help with information on class times, locations, and instructors.

When the course request period begins, you should consult the online timetable to confirm Fall 2017 offerings.

Then log into HokieSPA (you can use the shortcut on Virginia Tech's home page) and follow instructions for "course request." You must complete your course request before midnight on March 28th.

You will be able to view and modify your schedule when the drop/add period opens up

on April 15th

If you have any questions about course registration, please contact your assigned academic advisor, which you can see on HokieSPA. You can email your academic advisor to schedule an appointment.

Fall 2017 COURSE REQUEST:

March 21st-28th

Use HokieSPA and complete your course request
before midnight, March 28th!

New online change of major system

Virginia Tech has moved to a common change of major system that will take place three times per year. The new process will be online and is called the Change of Major Application. When a change of major period opens up, students can request a new primary major through Hokie SPA rather than the previous paper form.

If you are a current CNRE student who wants to change your major within CNRE, you are still required to change it through the online process. The next change of major period opens on May 1st. For more information, visit [our website](#).

Fall 2017 New Courses

INTERESTED?

Additional information (such as class location) is available at the online timetable. Log into **HokieSPA** and click on [Timetable of Classes](#).

FIW 4984 - Photography for Naturalists

This course will offer a quick review of basic principles for effective photography, and then explore applications for natural resource research, outreach, and personal enjoyment. Principles and practices for effective photography of landscapes, animals, and plants; macrophotography, night photography, travel photography, camera traps, cell-phone photography, photo storytelling, and more. Students must have a digital camera with an optical zoom and the capability for shooting in manual mode. Class meets for a 2-hour block weekly, Fridays 1:25-3:05 pm. Enrollment limited to 21 students. Grading is P/F. Questions? Contact Dr. Brian Murphy, murphybr@vt.edu.

GEOG 2984: Introduction to Earth's Climate

CRN: 89081 Credits: 3

Time: Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Location: Torgersen Hall, Room 1060

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Ellis (awellis@vt.edu)

Climate is the pattern of variation in weather through time and across space. Both variability and change in Earth's climate significantly affect social and physical systems across many geographic domains – a fact that has become more globally realized in recent years.

This course provides a foundational exploration of Earth's climate system with particular attention to the human-climate relationship. Topics covered include:

- Ozone Hole
- Global Warming
- Drought
- World Regional Climate Types
- Severe Weather and Hazards
- Paleoclimates: Ice Ages, Warm Periods
- Climate Change

There are no pre-requisites for this course.

Fall 2017 New Courses



New Course ■ Fall 2017

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SOCIETAL IMPACTS

GEOG 4984/5984 ■ Tues & Thurs 11am-12:15pm ■ MCB136 ■ 3 credits

Instructor ■ Dr. Anamaria Bukvic

An interdisciplinary course focusing on the multidimensional climate change impacts and adaptation options, including related complexity, uncertainty, cascading effects, thresholds, and possible outcomes for different societies. Students will explore dynamic trends of climate change-induced population movement, conflicts, socioeconomic shifts, and equity issues, and their impact on the vulnerability, resilience, and adaptive capacity using contemporary digital tools and methodologies. This course will evaluate ■ how conditions are changing ■ who will be affected by the change, how, and to what extent ■ what can be done to minimize the impacts and at what cost ■ how can we predict societal changes ■ and what transformations can we expect to see in the foreseeable future.



NEW FALL COURSE:

FREC 3754: WATERSHEDS AND WATER QUALITY MONITORING

EXPLORING THE LINKAGES BETWEEN WATERSHEDS AND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

T/TH 12:30 – 1:45 PM



Course Overview and Objectives:

Assessing and protecting water quality requires background in multiple disciplines and a holistic understanding of the connections between watersheds and aquatic systems. To that end, this course will cover the myriad processes that link watersheds and water quality, while strengthening backgrounds in hydrology, biogeochemistry, and ecology. This course will focus on watershed drivers and ecological consequences of water quality impairment, as well as methods to monitor water quality and ecological condition. Following this course, students will be able to:

- Evaluate the transport mechanisms that control how chemicals and sediments are delivered from watersheds to water bodies
- Assess specific effects of watershed drivers on water quality parameters and ecological condition of aquatic ecosystems
- Identify field methods used to monitor watershed drivers and water quality parameters at varying temporal and spatial scales
- Relate water quality data and aquatic ecosystem condition assessments with watershed drivers (e.g., vegetation and soil covers, land use maps, and climate data)
- Design monitoring programs that can help inform watershed management goals
- Review and critique land use decisions and best management practices related to watershed management and water quality protection

Contact Dr. Daniel McLaughlin (mclaugd@vt.edu) for more information.

Fall 2017 Course Updates

⇒ **FIW 2324 Wildlife Field Biology** will be adding a Fall 2017 section

This course is required course for wildlife majors and provides information on natural history and identification of fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals that would be of interest to students in several options in FREC and GEOG. In 2017-2018, we will be offering both a fall and a spring section. The fall section will be open to both majors and non-majors. (The course is usually offered spring only and restricted to wildlife majors.) It is a 3-credit course that meets for one 75-minute lecture and one 4-hour lab each week. Come learn about poisonous mammals and lungless salamanders that breathe through their skin!

⇒ **FIW 4535 Ecology and Management of Wetland Systems** will be offered again Fall 2017 (offered fall “odd” years)

Meets Monday/Wednesday 10:10-11:00 AM & Tuesdays 2:00-4:15 PM in JCH 212

⇒ **GEOG 1014 World Regions** will be taught on campus and online in Fall 2017

On campus section meets Tuesday/Thursday 5:00-6:15 PM in MCB 100

⇒ **HORT 4984 Special Study: Plant Establishment and Environmental Design**

Plant establishment and environmental design for sustainable landscapes and related ecological implications. Site assessment, urban soils, site rehabilitation, plant response to disturbed environments, green infrastructure and other contemporary landscape forms. Emphasis is on hands-on, experiential learning to achieve sustainable landscapes that protect and enhance the environment.

***Students who wish to take HORT 3644 Landscape Establishment & Mgmt (on Urban Forestry major option and minor checksheets) should take HORT 4984 instead*

Study abroad

STUDY ABROAD – SUMMER 2017 – FREC 3954

Climate Change Impacts and Policy in the Dominican Republic



Course description This course uses the Dominican Republic as a case study to introduce students to the impacts of climate change on key ecosystems (e.g., coastal areas) and natural resources (e.g., forests, biodiversity) and related mitigation and adaptation strategies. Students will also learn about ongoing impacts on agricultural production and people's livelihoods and strategies to decrease GHG emissions and reduce vulnerability to climate change. Students will meet with community leaders, scientists, environmental NGOs, and government officials. Students will explore the effects of a changing climate through field trips, hands-on experience, meetings, lectures, and readings.

Course period

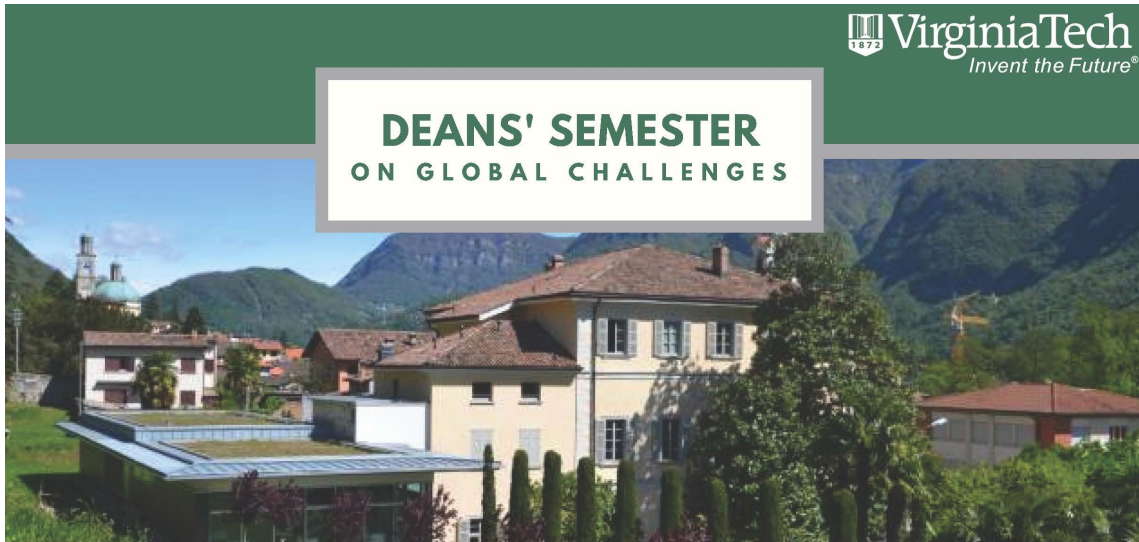
Summer Session II
August 1st – 13th, 2017

Interested students should contact:

Carol Franco, E-mail: carol@vt.edu
Office: 311A Cheatham Hall
Phone: 540-231-2967

Registration closes on April 1st

Study abroad



EXPLORE ISSUES IN FOOD, ENERGY, & WATER EARN 15-18 CLE CREDITS IN ONE SEMESTER

Study at Virginia Tech's Steger Center for International Scholarship in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland during Fall 2017 (August 25-December 13).

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Gain 15-18 credits that may be applied to CLE requirements
- Participate in a living learning community with Virginia Tech's leading and distinguished professors
- See global issues firsthand with excursions to Croatia and Senegal
- Serve the global community and advance the tradition of *Ut Prosim*: That I May Serve



APPLY AT WWW.GLOBALEDUCATION.VT.EDU

Scholarships and financial aid assistance available.
Contact Selma Haghamed (selma@vt.edu) for questions.

GLOBAL EDUCATION OFFICE 526 PRICES FORK RD. VTABROAD@VT.EDU (540) 231-5888

Virginia Tech does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, or veteran status; or otherwise discriminate against employees or applicants who inquire about, discuss, or disclose their compensation or the compensation of other employees, or applicants; or any other basis protected by law. For inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies, contact the Office of Equity and Access at 540-231-2010 or Virginia Tech, North End Center, Suite 2300 (0318), 300 Turner St. NW, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

Leadership Institute



Apply now!

College of Natural Resources and Environment Leadership Institute 2017-18 Cohort

Why Join?

- Build the self-awareness and self-confidence to be a successful leader
- Develop the knowledge and skills that will greatly enhance career success
- Network with leaders of state and federal natural resource agencies, nonprofit organizations and major corporations on a week-long, all-expenses-paid trip to Richmond & Washington, DC

More Information?

Come to our information session at 6:30pm, Tuesday March 14th in Cheatham 317A

How to apply:

Send a brief letter (<2 pages) describing why you want to participate and how you would benefit from participating to Dr. Brian Bond (bbond@vt.edu). Include your VT transcript with the letter (minimum overall GPA of 3.0 required).

Application deadline: March 21, 2017

More information at:

<http://cnre.vt.edu/students/leadership-institute/index.html>



Important notes

OVERLOAD APPROVAL

Anyone requesting more than 19 hours for fall must get approval. Print form requesting overload approval at <http://cnre.vt.edu/students/forms/index.html>. Unless permission is obtained in advance, you will be scheduled for the first available 19 hours requested.

FORCE-ADDS

All departments handle force-add requests differently. Please contact the professor for the course you wish to force add to determine the process for their department. For CNRE courses, all courses except GEOG require a force-add form which you can pick up in 138 Cheatham. You will need to obtain the permission of the professor and have them sign the form. Force-adds will not be processed until drop/add opens in April.

GEOGRAPHY FORCE-ADD WAITLIST

Geography will still be using a waitlist survey at www.geography.vt.edu. Some courses will be restricted to GEOG/MTRG majors during course request but it will be open during drop/add for all other majors. Students should complete the survey during the drop/add time to request a seat even if it appears to be full.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FIW 4214 WILDLIFE FIELD TECHNIQUES

This field intensive course will meet at its scheduled time the first 6 weeks of class consisting of 4 labs, a lab review, and a practical laboratory exam. The field intensive part of the course will begin directly before the start of fall semester August 15th-25th and will take place at Mountain Lake Biological Station (MLBS). Lab fee for this course will be approximately \$255 to be paid by the end of spring semester. Students will stay on location at MLBS for 10 nights and will gain hands-on experience in trapping and handling birds, herps, bats, and small mammals, as well as experience in radio telemetry, camera trapping, orienteering, sexing and aging wildlife, and much more. This intensive course will be demanding, action-packed, and also a lot of fun.

Important notes

FISH CONSERVATION AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION STUDENTS

All students in fish and wildlife students must fulfill an experiential learning requirement to graduate (no course substitutions or waivers will be granted). All Forms/Appendices and additional information are available on the website: http://www.fishwild.vt.edu/experiential_learning.htm.

Looking for a job or internship? Check out the CNRE job board!

<https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/cnre-job-board/>

TAKING SUMMER COURSES AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION

Taking coursework at an institution other than Virginia Tech requires approval. The Authorization of Transfer Credit form is available on the CNRE website: <https://cnre.vt.edu/students/forms/transfer-credit-authorization-form.pdf>

RESCHEDULING SPRING EXAMS

Deadline for rescheduling spring final exams (if you have a conflict or 3 exams in 24 hours) is April 14th. Print form and return to 138 Cheatham. See <http://cnre.vt.edu/students/forms/index.html>.

FREE TUTORING

The Student Success Center provides free tutors for a number of freshman and sophomore level courses in addition to a number of other free services. See <http://www.studentsuccess.vt.edu/>.

ADDING RESEARCH, INDEPENDENT STUDY, OR INTERNSHIP CREDIT

The last day to add classes for Fall 2017 is **September 1st**. This is also the last day to add research, independent study, or internship credit for the fall semester.

FOR COURSE PREFIX IS NOW FREC

Course prefixes have changed from FOR to FREC. Course numbers remain the same.

Dates and Deadlines

Please keep the following dates and deadlines in mind for registration and course request purposes:

- ✓ Course Request for Fall 2017 is open March 21-28.
- ✓ Deadline for rescheduling fall exams (if you have a conflict or 3 exams in 24 hours) is April 14.
- ✓ Fall 2017 Web Drop/Add opens April 15-May 12 and will reopen in August.
- ✓ Last day to withdraw from a course is May 3rd.

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

University Commencement Ceremony

Friday, May 12th

8:30 AM Lane Stadium

CNRE Commencement Ceremony

Saturday, May 13th

8:30 AM Moss Arts Center

<http://www.vt.edu/commencement.html>