AMH 4930- Florida Environmental History
Section 1546 - Spring 2009
Tuesday 5-6th Periods- Thursday 6th Period- Keene-Flint 113

Dr. Steven Noll
Office Hours- Keene-Flint Hall 217- M-W-F 9-10am & T-TH- 3:30-4:30
Office phone #- 273-3380 (This is a direct line to my office).
History Department- 392-0271
E-Mail- nolls@ufl.edu - This is the best way to get in touch with me- I check e-mails daily.

The six required books for this course will be available for purchase at Goering’s Book Store, located at 1717 NW 1st Avenue, across from campus (Phone # 377-3703). They will also be available on-line. If you experience any problems in buying the books, please let me know as soon as possible. Thank you. The course books are:


Paradise Lost? The Environmental History of Florida edited by Davis & Arsenault- University Press of Florida, 2005

The Everglades, River of Grass Marjory Stoneman Douglas- 60th Anniversary Edition- Pineapple Press, 2007 (This is a hard cover edition for only $19.95 you can get other editions but this is a keeper for an inexpensive price- plus it has a good afterword).

Cross Creek Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings- Scribners 1996


This course will examine the environmental history of Florida, emphasizing the interactions of humans & the natural world from the 18th century to today. Though there will be some lecture material, this course will emphasize an interactive relationship between professor & students. It is therefore incumbent upon students to come to class prepared, by both reading the assigned material & thinking about its meanings. There is no attendance requirement for this class. However, since this class depends on personal interaction between student & professor, it is in your best interest to not only come to class, but to come to class prepared. Class participation makes up 30% of your grade, so you will not get a good grade if you do not come to class!!
Students will be required to read the assigned readings & be ready to discuss them during the class period. There will also be a series of short assignments, designed to keep students focused on the course material. These will be described in more detail as the course progresses. Finally, there will be a 15-20 page research paper on a topic of the student’s choice, due at the end of class. This topic will be selected after approval by the professor. This paper will be due the day and time of the scheduled class final, Thursday, April 30th from 10AM to 12 noon.

Grades will be assigned in the following manner-

Class Participation 30%
Major Research Paper 35%  (5% for prospectus, 30% for final paper)
Oral Presentation of Research Paper 5%
Leading Discussion & Project 10%
Archive & Library Assignment 10%
Book Comparison Assignment 10%

Due to the increasingly technological nature of our society, I find it necessary to address the issues of cell phones in class. Please turn off all of these electronic devices before coming to class, as they are disruptive to the learning environment and distracting to other students. Thank You.

I also need to address tardiness to class in a more formalized manner. Lateness is also disruptive and distracting to a positive learning experience. Constant carping on this issue both deems the class and takes away from learning time. Therefore, I urge you, as responsible adults, to arrive to class on time ready to learn. Again, your cooperation is appreciated. Thank You.

Students requesting classroom accommodations for disability issues must first register with the Office of the Dean of Students. This office will provide documentation to the student who then must provide this documentation to me. I am more than willing to do whatever is necessary to ensure an optimum learning environment for all students.

Be aware of the University’s policy on plagiarism. The Internet has made this situation more problematic but understand that plagiarists will be caught. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please do not hesitate to ask. All plagiarism offenses will be reported on a Faculty Adjudication Form and forwarded to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. You may get more information on UF’s Judicial Affairs process at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php
The course below is your guide to this course. Please follow it carefully. Assigned readings for the week are due for Tuesday’s class, so we can discuss the readings during that week.

**Course Syllabus**

**Week One- January 5-9**
Read- Chapter 1 in *Paradise Lost*? (Have this done by Thursday if possible)

**Week Two- January 12-16- Encountering Paradise**
Read- Chapter 2 in *Paradise Lost*?
Read- Introduction & Parts I, II, II, & IV in *The Florida Reader*

**Week Three- January 19-23- Nineteenth Century Encounters**
Read- Chapter 10 in *Paradise Lost*?
Read- Part V in *The Florida Reader*

**Week Four- January 26-30- History as Literature I**
Read- Part VI in *The Florida Reader*
Read- *Cross Creek*

*Thursday, January 29th – Archive & Library Assignment Due*
Movie- January 27- “In Marjorie’s Wake”

**Week Five- February 2-6- History as Literature II**
Read- Chapter 13 in *Paradise Lost*?
Read- *the Everglades- River of Grass*

**Week Six- February 9-13- 20th Century Florida I**
*Tuesday, February 10th- Book Comparison Assignment Due*
Read- Chapters 4, 5, 11 in *Paradise Lost*?

**Week Seven- February 16-20- 20th Century Florida II**
*Tuesday, February 17th- Research Paper Prospectus Due*
Read- Chapters 8, 9, 12, 14 in *Paradise Lost*?

**Week Eight- February 23-27- The Everglades I**
Read- Chapter 6 in *Paradise Lost*?
Read- *The Swamp- Pages 1-236*
Week Nine- March 2-6 - The Everglades II  
Read- Chapter 15 in *Paradise Lost*?  
Read- *The Swamp* 239-375

Spring Break—March 9-13 - No classes

Week Ten- March 16-20 – The Cross Florida Barge Canal Controversy  
Read- Chapters 3 & 16 in *Paradise Lost*?  
Saturday- March 21st- Optional Field Trip to Buckman Lock, Rodman Dam, & Santos

Week Eleven- March 23-27-  
Read * Mirage*  
I hope to have the author in class on Thursday, March 26th  
**Tuesday March 24th** - in class project

Week Twelve- March 30-April 3-  
Tuesday- March 31- *Mirage* discussion  
Thursday April 2nd There will be NO formal class meeting- Work on your paper!!!!!

Week Thirteen- April 6-10-  
Tuesday- April 7th- There will be NO formal class meeting- Work on your paper!!!!!  
Thursday- April 9th- Oral Reports on Research Projects

Week Fourteen- April 13-17-  
Oral Reports on Research Projects

Week Fifteen- April 20-22 Final Class Summary

**Last Day of Class- Tuesday- April 21st**.  
Final Paper Due during the Final Exam Time Period - Thursday, April 30th – 10-12 noon in our classroom