GPHY 500 - GEOGRAPHY COLLOQUIUM  
Department of Geography  
University of Montana  
Fall 2018

Meets:  
Tuesdays 3:30-5:20, Stone Hall 217

Coordinator:  
Dave Shively  
Office: Stone Hall 212  
Office Hours: T 11-12, W 11-12, R 1-2, and by Appt.  
Email: david.shively@umontana.edu  
Phone: 406-243-6478

Course Description:  
The Geography Colloquium is a speaker series and forum for sharing research and practice pertaining to issues with geographic dimensions. Graduate students in residence and undergraduate seniors are required to attend. It brings together faculty, graduate students, undergraduate seniors, and other interested parties. The speaker series sets out to span the broad range of topics in geography or with connections to geography. Speakers are scholars from within the department, from other UM departments, from other institutions, and practitioners from the public and private sector. It is also a forum for sharing information of importance to graduate students and undergraduate seniors (e.g., Geography Club activities, research opportunities, course scheduling, etc.). Early sessions also serve to orient incoming students to the program, to other students and faculty, and to provide guidance on professional development.

Learning Goals and Outcomes:
1. Incoming graduate students will be welcomed, introduced to continuing students, to faculty, and oriented to the graduate programs in Geography.
2. Students will receive guidance toward professional development, including Curriculum Vitae and Resume preparation.
3. Undergraduate seniors will receive guidance on completing GPHY 400 – Geography Senior Capstone.
4. Participants will gain an appreciation of the broad range of topics with geographic dimensions, from the natural and social sciences to the humanities and arts, and from theoretical to methodological to professional practice.
5. The audience will benefit from exposure to academics and practitioners in Geography, GIS, Planning, and allied fields.

Required Textbooks:
- There are no required textbooks.
- Readings may be assigned.
- Geography Graduate Student Handbook Draft (sent by e-mail).
- For Curriculum Vitae versus Resumes, please consult the UNC Writing Center’s guidelines at: http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/curricula-vitae-cvs-versus-resumes/
Course Guidelines and Policies:

Assignments/Expectations
- Students and faculty take turns in providing refreshments to be shared before and/or after the guest presentations. A signup-sheet will be circulated.
- Early in the semester, students will receive a draft copy of our Graduate Student Handbook. They are expected to provide feedback.
- A Curriculum Vitae (CV) and Resume are due by Tuesday, November 20, the class period before the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Attendance
- Regular attendance is expected. Active participation in the discussion, typically at the end of a talk, will enhance the experience for speaker and audience. If you have a conflict please inform Shively.

Grading Policy
Grading mode is C (CR Credit; NCR No Credit.)

Student Conduct Code
All students at the University of Montana must practice academic honesty at all times. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php

Disability Modifications
The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (https://www.umt.edu/dss/default.php). If you think you may have a disability that might adversely affect your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. Your instructor will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.
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Presentation Abstracts
(Alphabetical Order)

Keith Bosak, Professor of Nature Based Tourism and Recreation, Franke College of Forestry and Conservation, University of Montana. Building Capacity for International Conservation and Development.

Demands on protected areas around the world are ever-increasing. In today's world, protected area managers must address demands for tourism, economic development, ecosystem services, and local subsistence use (among others). This presentation will cover efforts to build capacity for protected area planning and management around the world, highlighting specific projects in Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the US.

Katie Epstein, Ph.D. student in the Resources and Communities Research Group at Montana State University. Disasters, farming, and resilience in the mid-hills of Nepal.

In spring of 2015, Nepal was struck by a series of massive earthquakes and aftershocks causing extensive loss of life and damage to property. This talk examines trajectories of post-disaster recovery and adaptation in the smallholder farming communities of Nepal’s mid-hills, a region devastated by the 2015 earthquakes, and the ability of disasters, such as earthquakes, to instigate landscape transformation and dramatic social and ecological change.


Fifty percent of the world’s protected lands remain unmapped. The most endangered species, including tigers, lions, and snow leopards, call these lands home and are threatened by continued habitat loss, but more urgently, by increased poaching pressure. The Laboratory for Conservation Cartography at the University of Montana is actively engaging with NGO’s working to defend these animals. For some protection goals, the right strategy has been the creation of 1:25,000 topographic maps for use by patrol rangers. However, the production barriers of time and cost have led to new models for quickly implementing the right geospatial technology. This allows rangers to participate in the building of their maps, analyze field data in real-time, and drive decision making for their missions on the ground. The presentation will outline the solutions being implemented to give conservation staff access to satellite imagery and topography data on digital devices, in an unconnected, cell and Wi-Fi free environment. It will also cover the developing efforts to integrate ranger observations, GPS collar tracks and camera trap data to predict the movements of both animals and poachers. Maps are making a difference, and the closing success stories prove we can preserve the last of these iconic species.