ZOOL 466 – Fisheries Management

Offered: Fall semesters (even-numbered years)

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Course Description: This course will explore historical and contemporary issues in the management of fishes and conservation of exploited species in marine and freshwater systems (with an emphasis on inland lakes and rivers). It also will introduce students to approaches for assessing fish stocks and managing fisheries. Topics include fishery law, policy development, sampling fishes, abundance estimation, recruitment, mortality, age and growth, creel surveys, regulations, habitat management, introduced species, and use of hatchery fish. The course will emphasize problem-solving. Students will be required to complete a detailed lab report, similar to those required by agencies to summarize research results or make management recommendations. A central goal is to provide students with a solid conceptual grasp of fisheries issues while gaining the practical tools necessary for assessing and managing systems with exploited species. Two lectures weekly and one 4-hour lab/field trip on alternating weeks. Prerequisite: 10 hours of biological science or consent of instructor.