

Nature's Frozen Marvels

Designing an Interactive Traveling Museum Exhibit

ZOO 400: Zoology Capstone Seminar (3 credit hours)

Instructors: Richard Lee, Donald Kaufman, and Jon Costanzo

Meets on Tuesdays from 2:15 pm–5:00 pm

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ANIMALS? DO YOU LOVE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUMS? HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT AN EXHIBIT IN A NATURE CENTER AND THOUGHT, 'I COULD CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THAT'? NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

What's this capstone seminar all about?

STUDENTS WILL DESIGN A TRAVELING MUSEUM EXHIBIT, *NATURE'S FROZEN MARVELS*, TO HELP VISITORS LEARN ABOUT ANIMAL FREEZE TOLERANCE, AN ADAPTATION SHOWN BY SOME INSECTS, AMPHIBIANS, AND REPTILES. FREEZE-TOLERANT ANIMALS CAN FREEZE SOLID IN WINTER, THEN THAW OUT IN SPRING! (WANT TO LEARN MORE? VISIT THE WEB PAGE OF THE LABORATORY FOR ECOPHYSIOLOGICAL ECOLOGY, [HTTP://WWW.UNITS.MUOHIO.EDU/CRYOLAB](http://www.units.muohio.edu/cryolab))

Who's eligible to take the course?

WE'RE LOOKING FOR STUDENTS FROM DIVERSE DISCIPLINES, INCLUDING—BUT NOT LIMITED TO—BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, ENGINEERING, ENGLISH, GRAPHIC DESIGN, PSYCHOLOGY, AND ZOOLOGY.

What will it entail?

IF YOU SIGN UP FOR THIS CAPSTONE SEMINAR, HERE'S WHAT YOU'LL DO:

- EXPLORE THE PHENOMENON OF NATURAL FREEZE TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTAND THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT.
- LEARN HOW TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION TO GENERAL AUDIENCES.
- STUDY THE DESIGN ELEMENTS OF ENGAGING AND INFORMATIVE EXHIBITS.
- TRAVEL TO AREA MUSEUMS/NATURE CENTERS TO SEE, FIRST-HAND, EFFECTIVE EXHIBIT DESIGN.
- WORKING IN A SMALL GROUP, DESIGN A PROSPECTUS FOR A TRAVELING EXHIBIT; IT WILL INCLUDE RECOMMENDATIONS ON SUCH THINGS AS EXHIBIT MATERIALS, SIGNAGE, GRAPHICS, AND SPECIAL FEATURES.
- PRESENT YOUR PROSPECTUS TO YOUR CLASSMATES, INSTRUCTORS, AND EXTERNAL MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS.

How will the course be structured?

WE'LL USE AN INFORMAL SEMINAR FORMAT; YOU'LL PREPARE FOR CLASS BY READING SELECTED TEXTS AND OTHER RESOURCES, RESEARCHING RELEVANT TOPICS, DISCUSSING SCIENTIFIC TOPICS AND DESIGN ISSUES IN CLASS, AND RESPONDING (IN WRITING) TO READINGS AND CLASS DISCUSSIONS. YOU'LL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST TWO FIELD TRIPS. AND FINALLY, YOU'LL HAVE SOME TIME IN CLASS TO WORK, IN YOUR SMALL GROUPS, ON YOUR PROSPECTUS.

How will students be graded?

YOU'LL BE GRADED ON YOUR CLASS PARTICIPATION AND THE WORK YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE GROUP PROSPECTUS.

Anything else?

THE COURSE REMAINS OPEN UNTIL IT IS FILLED. APPLY ONLINE AT

[HTTP://WWW.UNITS.MUOHIO.EDU/CRYOLAB](http://www.units.muohio.edu/cryolab)

SPACE IS LIMITED, SO DON'T BE LEFT OUT IN THE COLD—APPLY NOW!