

# **ETHNOECOLOGY**

## **ALS 5932 (Sec.# 2781)**

**FALL 2008 - 3 CREDITS**

**TUESDAY 3rd PERIOD  
&  
THURSDAY 3 & 4TH PERIODS  
2108 MCCARTY HALL**

### **INSTRUCTOR**

Dr. Hugh Popenoe  
G155D McCarty Hall, 392-2643  
hlp@ufl.edu

### **GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The study of the interaction of traditional cultures with natural and man-made ecosystems. The course will include analyses of different types of land use.

### **PREREQUISITES**

None

### **GENERAL LECTURE OUTLINE**

Case studies of land use systems such as homegardens, shifting cultivation and irrigated landscapes, system components such as crop management, germplasm, beliefs and spatial and temporal arrangements will be discussed.

### **GRADES**

Grades will be determined by performance on two exams and written presentation.

### **WRITING**

A term paper on a case study or related topic is required.

### **EXAMS**

One midterm and one final.

### **TEXTS**

Handouts in class.

H. POPENOE  
AGG 5932

## Ethnoecology

Tentative Definition: The study of the management by cultures \* of natural and human-modified ecosystems. The emphasis is on control (as a part of decision making) rather than influence. It is an ecological approach to understanding and appreciating traditional knowledge: of land, plants (ethnobotany) and animals.

\* the customs, beliefs, social forms and material traits of a racial, religious or social group.

Reasons for study: (need to refine)

1. Acquire indigenous knowledge from different environments, cultures.
2. A study of systems over time and with technological changes provides an indication of sustainability.
3. Derive models for systems that have less deleterious effects on environments and health.
4. Improve design of development and natural resource (park) projects.
5. Information is useful in resurrection or reconstruction of agricultural and natural systems.
6. Because they exist. Provide more insights into our own development
7. Others?

### Land Use Systems with Ethnoecological Implications

Extraction (Hunter, Gatherer, Fisheries)  
Agropastoral - Nomadic herders  
Shifting Agriculture and Slash-Mulch Systems  
Agroforestry  
Water Management Systems (Irrigation, rainfall harvesting)  
Homegardens  
Hillside agriculture  
Protected Areas  
Others

### Some System Components

Germplasm (plants & animals) & classification  
Soil management  
Water management  
Spatial and Temporal Management  
Rituals and Beliefs  
Storage and Processing  
Division of Labor  
Health  
Housing

### Issues

Intellectual Property Rights  
Social Engineering  
Policies and Conflict Resolution  
Ethno- and Ecotourism (Participatory Tourism)  
Land Tenure  
World Bank & IARC  
PVO & NGO