SPEA-S 457 27518 – Honors, Introduction to Conservation Biology
Vicky Meretsky
TuTh 8:00-9:15 a.m.
PV 272

This class meets with SPEA-E 457 and SPEA-E 557.
The course is divided into three sections: scientific concepts associated with conservation of biodiversity and rarity, laws associated with conservation, and an exploration of the issues involved in instituting conservation in the real world. At the end of the course you will be familiar with the science regarding the importance of biodiversity and the science that underpins our recommendations to policy makers and managers. You will know the laws that are presently used to conserve biodiversity and rare species. Finally, you will be aware of the major issues facing policy makers and managers who seek to implement conservation recommendations including some of the primary sources of conflict and approaches to dealing with conflict. The course is taught at the graduate level, with undergraduate students and honors students evaluated at different levels from graduate students in assignments and examinations. Classroom time will be divided between a minority of lecture time and a majority of time discussing primary literature – largely journal articles. All students also conduct 3 frog surveys during the spring and participate in at least one part-day field trip (typically on a Friday or Saturday). Grades are based on participation in discussion, exams, papers, and a modeling exercise and related report.