

**NRM 4301 – Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management
Syllabus – Spring 2017**

Instructor:

Dr. Patricia Moody Harveson

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Office hours: Because this is a completely online course, primary contact is via email or phone. However, you can schedule an appointment if you need additional help and would like an office meeting.

Course Description:

Theory and applications for considering human dimensions in an integrated approach to wildlife conservation and management. Course emphases will include human values, the role of constituency groups, natural resource policy development, conflict resolution, group decision-making, research methods, and case studies.

Course Objectives:

Students will learn the art and science of human dimensions research as it applies to the field of natural resource management. Specifically, upon course completion students shall understand:

- Current trends in public opinion affecting natural resource management.
- Current human dimension issues in the field of conservation.
- Strategies and techniques for effectively communicating with people.

Textbooks (required):

- Manfredo, M. J., Vaske, J. J., Brown, P. J., Decker, D. J., & Duke, E. A. 2009. *Wildlife and society: The science of human dimensions*. Washington, DC: Island Press. 350 pp.
- Bonar, S. A. 2007. *The conservation professional's guide to working with people*. Island Press. 224 pp.
- **NOTE: Both books are available as free ebooks from the SRSU library website.**

Grading:

Summary – Wildlife & Society Part 1	10%
Summary – Wildlife & Society Part 2	10%
Summary – Wildlife & Society Part 3	10%
Summary – Wildlife & Society Part 4	10%
Case Study Assignment	30%
Case Study Comments/Participation	30%
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Total	100%

Scale: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; <60% = F

Readings:

Weekly readings will be assigned from the two textbooks. Please be sure to keep up with the readings. It is easy to get behind in an online course so please stick to (or get ahead of) the schedule posted in Blackboard.

Assignments:

Assignments will be posted on Blackboard and will be due that class week. The class is structured into weekly time periods that begin on Monday and end on Sunday. Most assignments are due by Sunday. In case there is a technical issue with submitting in Blackboard on the weekend, you will be given a “grace period” until Monday at noon to submit assignments. After this grace period, **NO LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Two assignments are due on Wednesdays (these have no grace period). See the class schedule (posted in Blackboard) for the dates and assignments for each week.

Case Studies:

Students will be asked to choose a topic to research as a case study. Something currently in the news that pertains to a human dimensions issue in natural resource management. On instructor approval of topic, students will “curate” articles from the internet to share with the rest of class. The class will then comment on these curated case studies. More information on 1) choosing the topic, 2) curating information, and 3) commenting will be provided during the class.

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic dishonesty includes copying, sharing, or obtaining information from an unauthorized source, attempting to take credit for the intellectual work of another person, falsifying information, and giving or receiving information about a test, quiz, or assignment to another student. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive no credit (0) for work done and/or may be penalized in accordance with published university rules.

Counseling and Accessibility Services: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartze, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Distance Education Statement:

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university’s academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard, which require secure login information to verify students’ identities and to protect students’ information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate

student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Additional Outcome Objectives as Required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools:

Student Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management

- Students will be able to identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
- Students will be able to communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.

Tentative Course Schedule: (see Blackboard for more detail and possible schedule changes)

Week	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Readings & Case Studies
1	17-Jan	22-Jan	Wildlife & Society: Part 1: Chapters 1-2
2	23-Jan	29-Jan	Wildlife & Society: Part 1: Chapters 3-5
3	30-Jan	5-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 2: Chapters 6-7
4	6-Feb	12-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 2: Chapters 8-10
5	13-Feb	19-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 3: Chapters 11-12
6	20-Feb	26-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 3: Chapters 13-14
7	27-Feb	5-Mar	Wildlife & Society: Part 4: Chapters 15-18
8	6-Mar	12-Mar	Wildlife & Society: Part 4: Chapter 19-23
9	13-Mar	19-Mar	Spring Break
10	20-Mar	26-Mar	Working with People: Chapter 2-3 & Case Studies
11	27-Mar	2-Apr	Working with People: Chapter 4-5 & Case Studies
12	3-Apr	9-Apr	Working with People: Chapter 6-7 & Case Studies
13	10-Apr	16-Apr	Working with People: Chapter 8-9 & Case Studies
14	17-Apr	23-Apr	Working with People: Chapter 10-11 & Case Studies
15	24-Apr	30-Apr	Case Studies
16	1-May	7-May	Case Studies