Course Objectives

The overall objectives of the study abroad program and internship are to equip students with adequate knowledge of various wildlife management and conservation issues in Botswana and South Africa and to attain proficiency in field notebook entries. An emphasis will be placed on understanding the patterns and underlying processes of the human-wildlife interface and biodiversity of Botswana and South Africa.

The course objectives are to:

- Learn valuable wildlife management and conservation principles
- Understand the challenges facing wildlife conservation and community based natural resource management
- Observe the ecological organization and biodiversity of the Madikwe Game Reserve and surrounding ecosystems
- Develop advanced field research techniques and associated skills
- Understand the social aspects of conservation science

Grading:

Students will need to keep a detailed field journal. Entries will be made daily and will cover topics such as wildlife management, biodiversity, and human-wildlife interactions. In addition to the field journal, students will be given daily assignments to complete each evening. These will be collected the following morning prior to the day’s activities. Students will be required to compose a research paper upon return to the United States that will cover the topic of African game management and ecology. The paper will compare and contrast methods used in Africa versus those used in the USA. Aspects associated with biodiversity and human-wildlife interactions should also be covered. Papers should be a minimum of 8 pages not including the literature cited or any photos/tables/figures uses.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Scale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Research Project and Report</td>
<td>90-100% = A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Field Journal</td>
<td>80-89% = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>70-79% = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Assignments, Quizzes</td>
<td>60-69% = D</td>
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<td>&lt;60% = F</td>
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Accommodations: It is Sul Ross State University Policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disabilities please contact the ADA coordinator for Program Accessibility located in Room 206 of the Briscoe Administration Building, or call 432-837-8203.

Program learning objectives:

Program Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management
The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:
1. Identify species of wildland plants and wildlife and describe their natural history.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.
4. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting.
5. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

Program Learning Outcomes for the M.Agr. in Range and Wildlife Management
The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:
1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references as they apply to the natural resource field
3. Demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamentals and advanced concepts of range and wildlife management.

Program Learning Outcomes for the M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management
The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:
1. Apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data
2. Evaluate literature and references to substantiate an applied research project.
3. Examine, select, and utilize appropriate resources, materials, and data collection instruments to implement research projects.
4. Justify and defend the research questions and design.