

**NRM 4301 – Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management
Syllabus – Spring 2020**

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):

1. Bonar, S. A. 2007. *The conservation professional's guide to working with people*. Island Press. 224 pp.
 2. 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.
- **NOTE: Both books are available as free ebooks from the SRSU library website. But access is not always guaranteed, so you may want to purchase them anyway.**

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	25%
Case Study Comments/Participation	25%
Final	10%
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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. All 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.** See the class schedule (posted in Blackboard) for the dates and assignments for each week.

Case Studies:

Students will research a human dimensions topic and create a case study. The instructor will choose topics for case studies and students will choose the topic they like best. In addition, each case study week the entire class will review all case study material and participate in discussions and other assignments. More information will be provided about the case study in Blackboard.

Case Study Discussions:

For each case study, one or more Discussion Boards will be posted to Blackboard for student participation. Each student should participate in the forum and each posting will be graded based upon the relevance, depth of knowledge, and unique contribution that it made to the discussion. For each discussion board, you will need to make your own original post (by Thursday), as well as comment on posts by other students or instructors (by Sunday). You must make these postings during the week in which it was scheduled. Please make your first initial post (original post) addressing the forum questions by Thursday of the week it is scheduled. You then have until Sunday to respond to other posts. I suggest you reply to at least 2 other student posts to facilitate discussion and receive maximum credit. You will not receive credit for late postings.

Final:

Your final will be a report over the book by Scott Bonar. More details will be provided on Blackboard.

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. Copying information verbatim from a book, another paper, or the internet is also plagiarism, instead you must paraphrase or state the information in your own words. 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. Multiple offenses will result in the expulsion from the class with the grade of F.

Distance Education Non-Participation Statement:

Policies in effect for on-campus, traditional classroom instruction courses also apply to students enrolled in distance education courses, including Web-based and ITV courses. The University allows a maximum of 20% absences in a course before an instructor may drop a student for excessive absences. In Web courses, this policy is interpreted as not participating for more than 3 weeks in a long semester, 1 week in a summer session, or 3 days in the midwinter session. Any student dropped for non-participation will receive an "F" in the course dropped. Inactivity may include the following:

- Not logging on to the course
- Not submitting assignments
- Not participating in scheduled activities
- Not communicating with the instructor by phone or email, and/or
- Not following the instructor's participation guidelines stated in the syllabus.

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	13-Jan	19-Jan	Wildlife & Society: Part 1: Chapters 1-2
2	20-Jan	26-Jan	Wildlife & Society: Part 1: Chapters 3-5
3	27-Jan	2-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 2: Chapters 6-7
4	3-Feb	9-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 2: Chapters 8-10
5	10-Feb	16-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 3: Chapters 11-12
6	17-Feb	23-Feb	Wildlife & Society: Part 3: Chapters 13-14
7	24-Feb	1-Mar	Wildlife & Society: Part 4: Chapters 15-18
8	2-Mar	8-Mar	Wildlife & Society: Part 4: Chapter 19-23
9	9-Mar	15-Mar	Spring Break
10	16-Mar	22-Mar	Case Study 1 (TBD)
11	23-Mar	29-Mar	Case Study 2 (TBD)
12	30-Mar	5-Apr	Case Study 3 (TBD)
13	6-Apr	12-Apr	Case Study 4 (TBD)
14	13-Apr	19-Apr	Case Study 5 (TBD)
15	20-Apr	26-Apr	Case Study 6 (TBD)
16	27-Apr	3-May	Final

TBD = To Be Determined