

**NRM 5321 – Wildlife and Society**  
**Course Syllabus – Spring 2023**

**Instructor**

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Office Hours: Tu/Th, 1:30-4:30pm – or by appointment in-person or on Teams

**Class Meeting Time/Place**

This is an online class with readings from the course texts that replace formal lecture. Blackboard will be used for all email communications, announcements, discussion, reading assignments, and grades.

**Course Description**

Advanced course on the theory and applications for considering human dimensions in wildlife conservation. Course emphases will include human values, the role of constituency groups, natural resource policy development, conflict resolution, group decision-making, and community-based conservation.

**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:

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

**Additional Outcome Objectives, as required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**

Student Learning Outcomes for the M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management:

1. Students will be able to apply statistical concepts and procedures to research.
2. Students will be able to evaluate literature and references to substantiate the applied research project.
3. Students will be able to justify and defend research questions and design.

Student Learning Outcomes for the M.Ag. in Natural Resources Conservation:

1. Students will be able to apply statistical concepts and procedures to natural resource data.
2. Students will be able to evaluate literature and references as they apply to the natural resource field.
3. Students will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the fundamentals and advanced concepts of range and wildlife management.

## **Marketable Skills, as required by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)**

Marketable Skills for the M.Ag. in Natural Resources Conservation:

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of key Natural Resource Management topics.
2. Students will be able to apply knowledge to projects that include biostatistics, research methods, and scientific writing.
3. Students will demonstrate skills in scientific writing and analysis.

## **Textbooks**

*Note: Both books are available as free eBooks from the SRSU library website. However, access is not always available, so you may want to purchase your own copy.*

1. Manfredo, M. J., J. J. Vaske, P. J. Brown, D. J. Decker, and E. A. Duke. 2009. *Wildlife and society: the science of human dimensions*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. 350 pp. **Required.**
2. Bonar, S. A. 2007. *The conservation professional's guide to working with people*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. 224 pp. **Required.**

## **Grading**

<u>Wildlife &amp; Society</u> summaries (5 @ 80 points each)	400 points
Weekly quizzes (5 @ 10 points each)	50 points
Case Study StoryMap	300 points
Case Study reports	160 points
Case Study discussions/participation	160 points
Book Report	200 points

## **Grade Assignment**

100-90: A, 89-80: B, 79-70: C, 69-60: D, <60: F

## **Due Dates and Extensions**

This course is structured into weekly time periods that begin on Monday and end on Sunday. All assignments are due by Sunday at 11:59pm unless otherwise specified. **No due dates for ANY graded work will be extended and no points will be given for late assignments except under extraordinary circumstances.** The student must initiate contact with the instructor to request an exception for late work. See the class schedule (posted in Blackboard) for the dates and assignments for each week.

## **Major Assignments and Examinations**

### Wildlife and Society readings and summaries

During the first part of the semester, weekly readings will be assigned from the textbook Wildlife & Society. Please keep up with the readings. Students will also write and submit 4 summaries of the assigned readings.

### Weekly quizzes

A short (5 question) quiz will be given each week during the first part of the semester, covering material from that week's readings. Each question is worth 1 point.

### *Case Study StoryMap*

Students will research a natural resource human dimensions topic and create a case study that will be reviewed and discussed in class. With assistance from the instructor, each student will choose a journal article to use as a case study. During the first part of class, the students will use ArcGIS StoryMap to create their case studies. More details about the Case Study project will be provided in Blackboard.

### *Case Study reports*

During the second part of the class, students will review each other's case studies (StoryMaps and journal articles) and answer a set of report questions based on that review.

### *Case Study discussions*

During the second part of the class, students will participate in Blackboard Discussion Boards for each case study. Discussions will be facilitated by the case study authors. Each student should participate in each 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:

- By 11:59pm on Thursday, you must make your own original post.
- By 11:59pm on Sunday, you must comment on posts by other students or the instructor. For maximum credit, you should respond to at least 2 other posts.
- No credit will be given for late postings.

### *Book Report*

A report over the book by Scott Bonar will be due at the end of the semester in lieu of a final exam. More details will be provided in Blackboard.

## **Academic Integrity**

Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

## **SRSU Distance Education Statement**

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires secure login. 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. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

### **Communication**

You are required to check your ***Sul Ross e-mail and Blackboard announcements several times per week.*** I do not use the personal or preferred e-mail addresses that you may have on record with the University.

### **ADA Statement**

SRSU Disability Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Alpine Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203, or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu). Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall – room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

### **Library Information**

The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library in Alpine offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

### **Tentative Course Schedule** (see Blackboard for more detail and any changes)

WEEK	DATES	ASSIGNMENTS	DUE
Week 1	1/17-1/22	Course Overview and Introductions	
Week 2	1/23-1/29	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 1-2	
Week 3	1/30-2/5	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 3-4	Quiz 1, Summary 1
Week 4	2/6-2/12	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 6-7	
Week 5	2/13-2/19	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 8-10	Quiz 2, Summary 2
Week 6	2/20-2/26	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 11-12	
Week 7	2/27-3/5	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 13-14	Quiz 3, Summary 3
Week 8	3/6-3/12	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 15-16	StoryMap draft
Week 9	3/13-3/19	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES	
Week 10	3/20-3/26	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 18	Quiz 4, Summary 4
Week 11	3/27-4/2	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 19-20	StoryMap final
Week 12	4/3-4/9	Wildlife & Society, Ch. 22-23	Quiz 5, Summary 5
Week 13	4/10-4/16	Case Studies	Reports, discussions
Week 14	4/17-4/23	Case Studies	Reports, discussions
Week 15	4/24-4/30	Case Studies	Reports, discussions
Week 16	5/1-5/7	Case Studies	Reports, discussions
Week 17	5/8-5/14	Bonar book discussion (optional)	Book report