

**SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**CJ 3367: WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
**SPRING 2025**  
**SYLLABUS**

**Instructor:** Conner Sumbera  
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**Class Hours:** **Online**  
**Classroom:** **Remote**  
**Office Hours:** **Email to Schedule**

**STATEMENT REGARDING SYLLABUS**

Syllabus is subject to updates and changes, always look to the course announcements and school email for updates. The faculty member reserves the right to amend this syllabus as needed.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK**

Freyfogle, Eric T., Goble, Dale D., Wildermuth, Todd A. (2019). Wildlife Law, Second Edition: A Primer. Island Press.

ISBN-10: 1610919130      ISBN-13: 978-1610919135

\*Additional required articles and readings will be posted on blackboard

**Recommended Reading and Resources**

Leopold, Aldo. (1949). A Sand County Almanac. Oxford University Press.

ISBN-10: 0197500269      ISBN-13: 978-0197500262

Texas Parks and Wildlife Code Reference List

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/warden/codes>

Texas Statutes and Codes

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Laws, Agreements, and Treaties Library

[https://www.fws.gov/library/categories/laws?\\$keywords=%22lacey%20act%22](https://www.fws.gov/library/categories/laws?$keywords=%22lacey%20act%22)

**SRSU LIBRARY SERVICES**

The The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer 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 Lobold 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 by phone

(432-837-8123). No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting [library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/](http://library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/) or ask a librarian by emailing [srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu). Once you logged in to your Sul Ross Account on Blackboard you should be automatically connected to the library webpage as well. Thus, you can browse the online databases of the University and reach the articles on the reading list.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Wildlife Law Enforcement is a course that is designed to give the student a basic understanding of the history, purpose, and processes of wildlife law in the United States. During this course, students will examine where the need for wildlife criminal law originated, how it has developed over time, the different roles state and federal agencies play in wildlife law, and the current issues faced in the world of wildlife law enforcement.

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

Upon successful completion of the course the student will be able to:

**LO1** – Describe the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation

**LO2** – Explain the need for wildlife law enforcement

**LO3** – List the federal acts that helped shape wildlife law enforcement

**LO4** – Describe the roles that state and federal wildlife law enforcement officers have

**LO5** – List the major current issues that are faced by wildlife law enforcement officers

**LO6** – Describe the future challenges that may hinder wildlife law enforcement efforts

### **MARKETABLE SKILLS**

This course is designed also to help the students build various marketable skills to use in their careers Criminal Justice related professions. Specifically, in this course, the following marketable skills, which are some of the most important skills for such careers, will be emphasized during this course:

**MS 1** – Verbal and Written Communication Skills. Students will develop communication skills to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

**MS 2** – Critical Thinking and Observation. Students will develop critical thinking skills to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of information.

**MS 3** – Multicultural Understanding.

**MS 4** – Accessing Resources with Crime Data and the most current updates of legal codes and procedures.

**MS 5** – Teamwork and Working Collaboratively

**MS 6** – Analyzing Factors Contributing to Crime

**MS 7** – Knowledge of laws, rules, and regulations directly to the position of Game Warden, Conservation Officer, and USFW Special Agent

**MS 8** – Enforcement techniques utilized by those who enforce wildlife law

## **CLASS ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION**

This is an **ONLINE CLASS**, meaning all materials will be distributed electronically on a weekly basis. Students are expected to log in and check the course web page and school email regularly to ensure no announcements or assignments are missed.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Sul Ross State University students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the Sul Ross Student Code of Conduct.” Student Code of Conduct, Responsibilities, Procedures, and Rights are found in the University website. Sul Ross State University and the instructor of this course both place a high priority on the academic integrity of their student scholars. As a result, all institutional guidelines and instructional policies concerning academic integrity will be strictly and uniformly enforced with all students regardless of context.

Academic integrity includes, but is not limited to, the following activities: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, fabrication, obtaining an unfair advantage, and falsifying academic records. In addition, academic dishonesty can include both actions and omissions to act in regard to academic exercises and activities. Cheating is defined here as the obtaining of information (electronic or otherwise) during an examination, the unauthorized use of books, notes, or other sources of information prior to or during an examination, the unauthorized use of books, the removal of faculty examination materials, the alteration of documents or records, or actions identifiable as occurring with the intent to defraud or use under false pretenses. Collusion is defined here as helping other students engage in acts of academic dishonesty, whether the student involved obtains any direct academic advantage from these acts. Plagiarism is defined here as the submission of the ideas, words, or artistic productions of another, without giving due credit or when attempting to falsely represent them as <https://sulross.libguides.com/citation/plagiarism> for more information.

## **POLICY ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS**

In this course, you are not required to use any form of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, Copilot, etc. However, if you choose to use any AI tools as part of your assignments—other than for brainstorming, proofreading, etc.—you must provide proper citation. We use APA citation format in all of our CJ courses. For more information about proper APA citation, please visit [APA - Citation and Plagiarism - Research Guides at Sul Ross State University](#).

Using AI tools to complete any assignment without proper citation violates academic integrity and will be considered a form of plagiarism, which is a violation of the SRSU Academic Honesty Policy under the Student Handbook - [Student-Handbook-24-25-1.pdf](#).

If you are unsure whether something is considered an AI tool, please check with your instructor. You are permitted to use AI tools for spell check, grammar check, and proofreading. Rephrasing sentences or reorganizing paragraphs you have drafted yourself is also allowed. However, remember that the most important part is that all the work you submit must be your own. You should never include anything in your assignment that was not written directly by you without proper citation. DO NOT copy and paste directly from any AI tools.

## **APA STYLE**

This course will use the American Psychological Association (APA) formatting and style guide for all written assignments. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the use of APA a number of resources have been provided below. Please note that all external sources must be appropriately cited. A failure to do so constitutes plagiarism and is a violation of the course academic honesty standards. See SRSU Library Teaching and Learning Guides for help with APA - [APA - Citation and Plagiarism - Research Guides at Sul Ross State University](#).

## **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND BLACKBOARD HELP DESK**

Sul Ross State University has established a variety of programs to help students meet the challenges of college life. Support to students includes advising, counseling, mentoring, tutoring, 4 supplemental instructions, and writing assistance. For a complete list of academic support services, visit the Student Support Services. For more information, students are encouraged to contact SSS at (432) 837-9118 or visit Ferguson Hall Room 105. For Blackboard help visit <https://www.sulross.edu/bb> or call 432-837-8888 (M-F 08:00 am-05:00 pm).

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT**

All full-time and part-time students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Student Handbook and the Undergraduate & Graduate Catalog and for abiding by the University rules and regulations. Additionally, students are responsible for checking their Sul Ross email as an official form of communication from the university. Every student is expected to obey all federal, state and local laws and is expected to familiarize themselves with the requirements of such laws.

## **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 a 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.

## **SERVICE STATEMENT**

I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I also understand that the crisis of pandemics, economic disparity, and health concerns, or even unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to contact me. I want to be a resource for you.

## **STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

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. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mary Schwartz Grisham, M.Ed., LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Coordinator at 432-837-8203 (please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can during working hours), or email [mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall (Suite 112), and our mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas, 79832.

## **LATE ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION POLICY**

Students are supposed to finish their coursework on time and assignments must be submitted before the deadlines. Students are expected to show appropriate cause for missing or delaying major assignments or examinations. Late assignments will not be accepted unless there is an excuse that is recognized by the university.

## **CLASS ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS:**

**Discussion Posts (10 Points Each)** – For each discussion post, you will provide a minimum **250-word response** to the question assigned each week. **You must also respond to at least 1 of your classmate's posts.** Please post your initial response by each Thursday so there is ample time for responses. The due date for initial posts and responses is Sunday at 11:59 pm on the assigned week.

**Quizzes (10 Points Each)** –The quizzes will be **20 multiple choice and true/false questions** over the required reading materials. The due date will be Sunday 11:59 pm of the assigned week.

**Opinion Papers (50 Points Each)** – Throughout the course, there will be four opinion papers due. For these papers, you will read the assigned article and write an opinion paper about its contents. These are not meant to be summaries, but rather your own thoughts on the material. The papers will be a minimum of **2 pages (not including cover and reference pages), double spaced, and size 12 Times New Roman font**. At least **2 sources** are required for each paper, one source will be the assigned article, the additional source(s) will be articles you find related to the assigned material and used to support your viewpoint on the topic.

**Midterm Test (100 Points)** – The midterm will be a **50-question multiple choice and true/false test** over all material covered in the first half of the course.

**Final Paper (200 Points)** – The final paper will be a research paper over your choice of a provided list of wildlife laws. For this paper, you will select a law and review its history (when and why it was adopted), outline the law and its purpose in wildlife conservation, give examples of any notable criminal cases involving this law, and give your opinion on any shortcomings this law has. You should review the law and any material associated with it and discuss its restrictiveness, its applicability with conservation efforts, methods of enforcement, and your personal opinion on whether the law should be changed in any way, or even be repealed. I will provide the class with a list of laws, both federal and state, that may be used for your final paper after midterms. **The requirements are that the paper is in APA format, includes a minimum of 3 academic sources, 5 total sources and has a cover page, abstract, table of contents, body, and reference page. The body of the paper should be 7 pages minimum (not including cover, abstract, table of contents, and reference page). Use 12 point, Times New Roman font, double-spaced with normal margins.** The paper will be submitted to SafeAssign to detect any plagiarism. Please make sure to use proper spelling, punctuation, paragraph formatting, and in-text citations.

### **Extra Credit:**

There will be opportunities for extra credit for this course. Please monitor your email and the course announcements for information when extra credit opportunities arise. Extra credit points will be added directly to your final grade score.

### **Grading:**

The following is the assignment grading rubric for this course.

Assignment	Points per assignment	Total Points
Discussion Post	10 (6 Total)	60
Quiz	10 (6 Total)	60

Opinion Paper	50 (4 Total)	200
Midterm Exam	100	100
Final Paper	200	200
All Assignments		620

### **Grade Scale:**

**A = 620>550 Points B = 549>490 C = 489>430 D = 429>370 F = 369>0**

### **Class Schedule**

**Jan. 15 – 19: Syllabus and Introductions**

**Jan. 20 – 26: Discussion Post 1**

**Jan 27 – Feb 2: Quiz 1**

**Feb 3 – 9: Discussion Post 2**

**Feb 10 – 16: Quiz 2, Opinion Paper 1**

**Feb 17 – 23: Discussion Post 3, Quiz 3**

**Feb 24 – Mar 2: Discussion Post 4, Quiz 4**

**Mar 3 – 9: Opinion Paper 2**

**Mar 10 – 16: Midterm Exam**

**Mar 17 – 23: Spring Break**

**Mar 23 – 30: Discussion Post 5, Quiz 5**

**Mar 31- Apr 6: Opinion Paper 3**

**Apr 7 – 13: Discussion Post 6**

**Apr 14 – 20: Quiz 6**

**Apr 21 – 27: Opinion Paper 4**

**Apr 28 – May 7: Final Paper**