

WILD 105 Wildlife & People

Syllabus for Fall 2016, 3 credits

Instructor: Brit Garner
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Class meets 11:00 – 11:50 on MWF in MCG 210
Office hours: *by email appointment* or before class MWF 10-10:50 in MCG 210

This course qualifies as a General Education course under Perspective 6 Natural Science

Course Description & Purpose:

This course is designed for students (non-wildlife majors) interested in learning about the interactions of wildlife and people in today's society. In this course, students will be introduced to ecological principles at the population, community, and ecosystem level. Students will engage the scientific method, understand how to ask scientific questions, and embrace rigor and uncertainty in science. We will apply our knowledge of wildlife science to wildlife management issues, assess human impacts on wildlife populations, and investigate ways that wildlife and people coexist.

Student Learning Goals and Objectives

1. Understand the historic and contemporary issues in wildlife science and management in Montana, western North America, and globally
2. Learn principles of the scientific method and the difference between science and advocacy in decision-making
3. Understand how scientific investigations are conducted and implications of science in management of wildlife resources
4. Identify with and understand the role that society plays in the use and conservation of Montana's wildlife habitats and populations
5. Develop a knowledge base that will enable you to critically evaluate societal positions in natural resource management and conservation

In accordance with the mission of The University of Montana-Missoula, these objectives are to develop competent and humane individuals who are informed, ethical, literate, and engaged citizens of local and global communities. Students should become acquainted with issues facing contemporary society, participate in the creative arts, develop an understanding of science and technology, cultivate an appreciation of the humanities, and examine the history of different American and global cultures. Upon completion of the general education requirements students should be able to articulate ideas verbally

and in writing, understand and critically evaluate tangible and abstract concepts, and employ mathematical and other related skills appropriate to a technologically focused society.

Required Texts and Materials

A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold

Other readings such as book chapters and news articles will be posted on Moodle.

Moodle

Most course content and communication will be through Moodle (moodle.umt.edu).

If you need assistance with Moodle or are unfamiliar with Moodle, here are your resources:

- UOnline Help Desk: 406-243-4999, 1-866-225-1641 or umonline-help@umontana.edu
- Accessibility issues with Moodle: Marlene Zentz at 406-243-6434 or marlene.zentz@umontana
- NetID and email accounts and general computer technical assistance: IT Central Help Desk, 8am-5pm: 406-243-4357
- General registration information: Contact the Registrar's Office in the Lommasson Center at 406-243-2995

Components of the Course and % of Total Grade

Assignments	25%
Exam I	25%
Exam II	25%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Grades calculated as a percentage correspond to the scale:
90%+ = A; 89-80% = B; 79-70% = C; 69-60% = D; 59% or less = F

Please note, this class is offered for traditional letter grade only- it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

Testing:

Lecture exams may consist of a mixture of multiple-choice, true-false, short answer, and essay questions. Failure to take an exam during the regularly scheduled time without 1-week prior notification to the instructor and an excused absence will result in a zero. Scheduling of make-up exams must be completed within 1 week of the student's return and is the sole responsibility of the student. Make-up exams will be essay questions. Each of three exams will cover approximately a third of the course material. There is no guarantee of extra credit opportunities, but 1 or 2 may arise during the semester (as announced). If you are late for an exam, you may take the exam as long as all students taking the exam are still present; once the first student has completed the exam and left, no new exams will be distributed—no extra time will be allotted.

Attendance Policy:

Attendance is not recorded in lecture. However, it is to your advantage to attend class because Moodle questions pertaining to reading assignments and recent lectures will contribute to your grade. Small assignments comprise 25% of your final mark.

Academic Dishonesty:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. More info at: [Student Conduct Code](http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php) (http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php)

Students with disabilities:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommason 154 or (406)243-2243. I will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate modification.

For more information, please consult Disability Services for Students (www.umt.edu/dss).

Important Dates:

Opportunities to drop a course in Fall 2016:

Deadline	Description	Date
To 15 th instructional day	Students can drop classes on Cyberbear	September 19 = last day
16 th to 45 th instructional day	Drop requires form with instructor and advisor signature, a \$10 fee from registrar's office, student will receive a 'W'.	September 20 through October 31
Beginning 46 th instructional day	Students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances. Not doing well in the class, deciding you are concerned about how the class grade might affect your GPA, deciding you did not want to take the class after all, and similar reasons are not among those limited and unusual circumstances. If you want to drop the class for these sorts of reasons, make sure you do so by the end of the 45 th instructional day of the semester.	November 1

Other important dates and up-to-date info at: [UM Events](#).

Course Outline (tentative)

<u>Week of (Mon.)</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Note</u>
	<i>Introductory concepts</i>	
Aug 29	Introduction to wildlife	
Sept 5	No class/continue intro	Labor Day
Sept 12	History of wildlife management	
Sept 19	Wildlife use and values	
Sept 26	Ethics and advocacy	
	<i>Wildlife management concepts</i>	
Oct 3	Management and human conflict	EXAM #1 (Oct 3rd)
Oct 10	Hunting and disease	
	<i>Population concepts</i>	
Oct 17	Population limitation, regulation	
Oct 24	Populations and wildlife management	
	<i>Community concepts</i>	
Oct 31	Succession and biodiversity	EXAM #2 (Precise date TBD) Vet. Day, no classes Nov 11
Nov 7	Keystones and species interactions	
Nov 14	Endangered animal and ecosystems	
	<i>Ecosystem concepts</i>	
Nov 21	Exotic species	Thanksgiving, no classes W-F
Nov 28	Restoration	
Dec 5	Current wildlife research	
Dec 12	Final review	
FINAL EXAM		
December 14		
8:00-10:00 AM		