

WILD105N Wildlife & People

Syllabus for Fall 2019, 3 credits

Instructor: Brit Garner
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Class meets 11:00 – 11:50 on MWF in MCG 210
Office hours: TBD or by email appointment

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 the Anthropocene. 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 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 and Sketches Here and There 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 or umonline-help@umontana.edu
- NetID, email accounts, and general computer technical assistance: IT Central Help Desk, 8am-5pm at 406-243-4357 or email itcentral@umontana.edu
- General registration information: Contact the Registrar's Office in the Lommasson Center at 406-243-5600

<u>Components of the Course</u>	<u>% of Total Grade</u>
Assignments	40%
Exam I	20%
Exam II	20%
Final Exam	<u>20%</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 short 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 and does not count as points toward your grade. However, it is to your advantage to attend class as this is the best way to engage with the material and prepare for exams. Small assignments comprise 40% of your final mark and will be submitted online.

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/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php) (<http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php>)

Students with disabilities: Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction for students with disabilities in collaboration with instructors and Disability Services for Students, which is located in Lommasson Center 154. The University does not permit fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications.

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Office for Student Success for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable in doing so.

Important Dates: Opportunities to drop a course in Fall 2019:

Deadline	Description	Date
To 15 th instructional day	Students can drop classes on CyberBear with refund & no “W” on Transcript	September 16 at 5 PM
16 th to 45 th instructional day	A class drop requires a form with instructor and advisor signature, a \$10 fee from registrar’s office, student will receive a ‘W’ on transcript, no refund.	September 17 - October 28 at 5 PM
Beginning 46 th instructional day	<u>Students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances.</u> 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, switching majors, 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. Requests to drop must be signed by the instructor, advisor, and Associate Dean (in that order) so if you pursue this request, leave sufficient time to schedule meetings with each of these individuals (generally this will take at least 3-5 working days). A \$10 fee applies if approved. Instructors must indicate whether the individual is Passing or Failing the class at the time of request.	October 28 – December 6 at 5 PM

See also Fall 2019 [Official Dates and Deadlines](#) calendar

Course Outline (tentative and subject to change pending guest lectures)

<u>Week of (Monday)</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Note</u>
<i>Introductory concepts</i>		
August 26	Introduction to wildlife	
September 2	Continue intro	Labor Day 9-2-19 (no class)
September 9	History of wildlife management	
September 16	Wildlife use and values	
September 23	Ethics and advocacy	
<i>Management concepts</i>		
September 30	Management and human conflict	EXAM #1 (9-30-19)
October 7	Hunting and disease	
<i>Population concepts</i>		
October 14	Population limitation, regulation	
October 21	Populations and wildlife management	
<i>Community concepts</i>		
October 28	Succession and biodiversity	EXAM #2 (date TBD)
November 4	Keystones and species interactions	
November 11	Endangered animals and ecosystems	Vet. Day 11-11-19 (no class)
<i>Ecosystem concepts</i>		
November 18	Non-native species	
November 25	Restoration	Thanksgiving, no class W-F
December 2	Global connection	
December 9	Final review	
FINAL EXAM		
Friday, December 13th		
8:00-10:00 AM		