

WILD105N Wildlife & People

Syllabus for Fall 2020, 3 credits

Instructor: Erim Gomez
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Class meets 8:00 – 8:50 on MWF in UC 302
Office: Forestry 309
Office hours: M 9:00-11, Th 11:00-1:00

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

Book chapters and news and scientific 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

| Components of the Course | <u>% of Total Grade</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Assignments | 40% |
| Quizzes | 40% |
| Participation | <u>20%</u> |
| | 100% |

Quiz: There will be 4 quizzes may consist of a mixture of multiple-choice, true-false, short answer, and essay questions. Quiz Dates

Friday, Sept. 9

Friday, Oct. 2

Friday, Oct. 24

Final Quiz Open Nov. 11-13.

No Final Only Quiz

Assignments:

You Wildlife Story, Due: Monday Aug. 31 at 11:59 pm

Case Study: Galapagos Conservation and Management, Due Monday Sept. 28 at 11:59pm

Climate Change in the News, Due Nov 11 at 11:59 PM

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required. See participation points.

Grading Scale

| | | | | | | | |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| A | 93≥ | B+ | 87≥ | C+ | 77≥ | D+ | 67≥ |
| A- | 90≥ | B | 83≥ | C | 73≥ | D | 60≥ |
| | | B- | 80≥ | C- | 70≥ | F | 60< |

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

Grading Disputes

Please keep track of grades and contact me as soon as possible to fix any grading discrepancies. Discrepancies must be addressed within **one-week** if it was posted or handed back.

Classroom Etiquette

As a learning community, it is important for us to work together to ensure that we are fostering a positive and respectful learning environment for all. Below are some selected guidelines.

- Please ensure that you are prepared for by doing the assignments, having supplies in hand, and prepared to learn and participate.
- Note taking with devices (e.g. laptops, ipads) is allowed, but please stay on task. Doing other homework, checking your, Redditt, SnapChat, TicTok, stocks, the GU Basketball score, or anything else not related to class is not only distracting to you, but also to your neighbors.
- Please be considerate about your food choices, especially those that are noisy or particularly odorous. *Coffee is encouraged.*
- Unless we are doing group work, please do not carry private conversations with others.
- While I do want you to have enjoy this course please respectful and professionally toward your collages and me.
- Please do not text while I am lecturing. *Why? It is really distracting to me.*

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.

Curry Health Center Counseling

Counseling assists students by addressing their personal counseling and psychotherapy needs for the purpose of helping them gain the most from their time on campus. When a student's mental health care needs are beyond the scope of our services, we will assist with referrals to community-based providers for specialized or longer-term care.

Services provided:

- Individual Counseling (telecounseling only)
- Group Therapy - (telecounseling only)
- Topical Seminar - (telecounseling only)
- Urgent one-time Appointments Available
- Limited Psychological Assessments
- Psychiatric Consultation
- Consultation with concerned others
- Referrals to community-based resources
- Behavioral Health Options for alcohol, other drugs, gambling and weight management

Call 406-243-4712 to make an appointment. For crisis, after-hours care call the National Suicide Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255, contact the Crisis Text line: text MT to 741-741, or contact your nearest Emergency Department.

Curry Health Center Counseling Services provides a confidential and inclusive environment to address the personal, behavioral and mental health needs of all UM students. We specialize in addressing the concerns and goals of our diverse UM community. Every student has to navigate a wide variety of stressors and challenges during their college career and we're here to offer support as well as assist in getting connected to resources on and off campus. Our licensed counselors, social workers and psychologists, as well as advanced graduate students, offer individual and group therapy in addition to urgent counseling. Your initial consultation is no cost and subsequent individual sessions are \$25; group therapy is at no cost.

Dropping/Adding:

Drop/Add dates are posted at Office of Registrar: Calendar.

Important Dates Regarding Opportunities to Drop a Course during Autumn 2019 Semester:

| Days and Title | Description | Date |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| First Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction starts on August 19 | Aug. 19, 2020 |
| Last day to drop with refund | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day to drop individual classes on CyberBear with refund • Last day to withdraw from (drop all courses) with a partial refund – Withdrawal Policy linked below. • Last day to add classes with electronic override on | Sept. 9, 2020 5:00 p.m. |

| Days and Title | Description | Date |
|---|---|------------------------------------|
| | CyberBear. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day to change credits in variable credit courses & switch grade mode in CyberBear. • Last day to change grading option to or from audit. • Last day to buy or refuse UM’s student health insurance coverage. | |
| Last day to drop individual classes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course adds & drops require instructor’s & advisor’s approval using the Course Add/Change/Drop link in CyberBear. \$10 fee applies per add or drop. • A ‘W’ will appear on the transcript for dropped classes. No refunds. | Oct. 21, 2020 5:00 p.m. |
| Drop with WP or WF Oct. 22–Nov. 18, 2020 5:00 p.m. Don’t count on this option. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are only allowed to drop a class under very limited and unusual circumstances. • Concern over course grade is not an acceptable reason. • Requests to drop must be signed by the instructor, advisor, and Dean and a \$10 fee applies. • A WP or WF will appear on the student’s transcript. | Oct. 22 to Nov. 18th |

ZOOM – Student Online Classroom Etiquette Suggestions

- It is highly encouraged that you have your camera on. However, it will not be mandated.
- Try to log into your class or meeting from a distraction-free, quiet environment.
- Please keep your audio on mute until you want to speak. This will help to limit background noise.
- Consider using a headphones with an external mic for best hearing and speaking capabilities.
- Close unneeded applications on your computer to optimize the video quality.
- If you would like to speak or answer a question, use the “Raise Hand” feature. Then unmute yourself after you are called on by your teacher.
- When you are speaking, let others know that you are finished by saying something like, “That’s all,” or “I’m done,” or “Thank you,” so that everyone knows you have finished your comments.
- If you would like to use the chatbox, remember that it is public, and a record of the chat is kept and archived. Even in the breakout rooms.
- Keep paper and a pen or pencil handy to take notes.
- Make sure your video is on (if you have camera capabilities) so your teacher and peers can see you.
- Be mindful of your background lighting. If you are sitting with your back to a window, you may be silhouetted by the light coming through.
- Please take care of your personal needs (appropriate dress, eating, chewing gum, talking to others in your home, etc.) prior to entering a Zoom classroom.
- Please do not use profanity or inappropriate language.

Week of Topics

Introductory concepts

- Week 1 Introduction to wildlife
- Week 2 Continue intro
- Week 3 History of wildlife management
- Week 4 Wildlife use and values
- Week 5 Ethics and advocacy

Management concepts

- Week 6 Management and human conflict
- Week 7 Hunting and disease

Population concepts

- Week 8 Population limitation, regulation
- Week 9 Populations and wildlife management

Community concepts

- Week 10 Succession and biodiversity
- Week 11 Keystones and species interactions
- Week 12 Endangered animals and ecosystems

Ecosystem concepts

- Week 13 Non-native species
- Week 14 Restoration
- Week 15 Global connection
- Final review