PTRM 584: Sustainable Protected Area Management and Tourism
Monday and Wednesday, 11:00-12:20
Location: Social Sciences Bldg, Room 340
3 Credits

Instructor Information

Instructor: Jenn Thomsen, Ph.D.
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<u>Office Hours</u>: By appointment

Course Description

This course will explore the intersection of social, cultural, environmental, and economic aspects of protected area management in relation to sustainability of resources, tourism, visitor management, conservation, and community development. Case study examples from diverse contexts, settings, and types of terrestrial and aquatic protected areas within the U.S. and around the world will illustrate the complexity of protected area management in a time of rapid change. The semester's material will be categorized into five sections:

- *Sustainability:* Sustain what and for whom?
- *Social-Cultural Aspects:* How to work with tribes, indigenous, and local communities to integrate and promote cultural tourism and maximize social benefits of protected areas?
- *Environmental Aspects:* How to sustain and manage resources in a changing climate and with high tourism and recreation use?
- *Economic Aspects:* How to limit economic leakage from protected area tourism and to build capacity for local community involvement? How to do more with less financial resources?
- *Tools and Strategies:* What strategies and tools can be utilized for monitoring, management, communication/engagement in protected areas and tourism?

The course will be discussion-based and incorporate different disciplines and theoretical lenses to address complex issues and topics.

Learning Goals
By the end of the course, students should:

- Gain a greater theoretical understanding and foundational principles of protected area management and sustainable tourism.
- Learn to apply the theoretical learnings and practical skills to complex social-ecological contexts and issues from the local to international scales.
- Gain professional development through course activities and assignments that can be applied to the student's research project and future career.

Course Structure

The typical class structure will be as follows:

- Introduction to Topic: 15 minutes
- Discussion of Article/Reading(s): 40 minutes
- In the News: 10 minutes
- Reflections and further questions: 10 minutes

Course Readings

Readings will be available electronically on the course Moodle site.

Course Policies

Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices during class, including laptops and tablets, is only permitted ***so long as the use is directly related to the class session.*** Out of respect for your fellow students, instructors and guest speakers, please **silence portable electronic devices** before coming into class. Please instruct relatives or friends to call campus security in case of an emergency. Security will look up the class in the system and then send someone to the class. The use of cell phones to make phone calls is not allowed unless approved by the instructor.

Plagiarism

Successful students always make sure that their work is original. This is important because the instructor must be able to gauge what the student has learned. Therefore, copying the work of another person, whether an essay or answers during a test, is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is a form of cheating. Any time a student uses someone else's work and does not give that person credit, it is plagiarism.

Students with Disabilities Statement

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.

Student Conduct Code Statement

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](#).

Evaluation

Overall Class Grading	Percentage
Midterm	20%
In the News	10%
Interview with a Professional	15%
Grant Proposal or Data Activity	15%
Presentation/Discussion Lead	15%
Final Paper	25%

Attendance and Participation

As primarily a discussion-based course, attendance is critical. Missed days require notification 48 hours prior. In the case of a verifiable emergency (medical, family etc.), I will make every effort to work with the student - but I need to be informed as soon as possible. If the student has university excused absences for athletics or other purposes I need to know in advance to work out make up assignments. You will have to work with your instructor on appropriate make-up for the absence. Students are expected to arrive on time and to be engaged in the course activities. If a student has an unexcused absence, they will be required to make up the in-class assignments and material. More than two unexcused absences will result in a drop of an entire letter grade for the final grade.

Assignments

Midterm (20%)

The midterm will cover all readings, lectures, and topics through March 22nd. The midterm will mainly be short answer questions and the topics will be reviewed prior to the exam.

In the News (10%)

Students will be expected to stay up to date on recent (past year) news articles and media related to the course topics. Each student will bring a minimum of **five** news articles to class during the semester that relate to the topic discussed that day. The first ten minutes of class will be dedicated to presenting the news and the topics will also be integrated into the class discussion.

Interview with a Professional (15%)

Each student will identify a professional that align with their research field and operate in protected area management and/or sustainable tourism. Students will contact the individual and setup a phone or in-person meeting to ask the representative questions about their experience in their occupation and field as well as how they resolve conflicts and collaborate with diverse groups and stakeholders. Students will write-up interview results and synthesize findings to connect back with themes of course. Details of the interview assignment will be provided in class.

Grant Proposal or Data Activity (15%)

As part of students' professional development in their graduate career and to offer support for their graduate research, each student will the option to find and select a grant that aligns with their research interests and prepare the grant as part of the class requirements. Note: the due date for the grant does not need to be during the time constraints of the semester. Each student will coordinate this work with the professor. Alternatively, a student can choose to work with an existing data set related to protected area management or sustainable tourism and work with a small dataset as part of the data analysis process. The student will produce a short report presenting the major themes from the data. Each student will coordinate this work with the professor.

Presentation/Discussion Lead (15%)

Each student will select one topic from the syllabus that they are interested in exploring in more depth. The student will find two academic articles on the topic that the whole class will be required to read. The student will work with the professor to make plans for selection of articles and how to lead discussion in class.

Final Paper (25%)

Each student will setup a meeting with the professor in the first weeks of the semester to discuss their graduate research topic and how it aligns with the topics in the course. Each student will propose a topic and outline for their final paper that meets the needs of where they are in their graduate career and the requirements for the assignment. Guidelines for the final paper will be provided in class and discussed in the meeting with the professor.

Grade Scale

The grading scale is consistent with that used on the University of Montana campus. The traditional letter grade scale is below. Please note, this class is offered for traditional letter grade only, it is not offered under the credit/no credit option.

Grade	Percentage
A	> 93
A-	90 - 93
B+	88 - 89
B	83 – 87
B-	80 - 82
C+	78 - 79
C	73 - 77
C-	70 – 72
D+	68 - 69
D	63 - 67
D-	60 - 62
F	<60

Late Penalty

It is important that you turn in all assignments on time. Late work will occur a 10% reduction per day and will not be accepted after three days unless arranged ahead of time with the instructor. If students need an extension and want to avoid any late penalty, they must make such arrangements at least one week in advance of the due date with the instructor. Reasonable accommodation will be made for unforeseen emergencies.

Important Dates Restricting Opportunities to Drop a Course Spring 2020:

Description	Date Range
Students can drop classes on CyberBear with refund & no "W" on Transcript.	Feb. 3
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.	Feb. 4 through March 24
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 circumstances.	March 25-May 1

Date	Topics	Assignments Due
Section 1: Sustainability: Sustain what and for whom?		
January 13th	Class overview; Intro to Sustainable Tourism & Protected Area Management	
January 15th	Shifting Baselines: What are we sustaining?	
January 20th	**NO CLASS: MLK Day**	
January 22nd	**NO CLASS:** Identify Discussion Topics, Grants or Coding Activity	**Select Topics & Setup Individual Meetings**
January 27th	**Guest Speaker:** Keith Bosak Tourism Development & Sustainability	
Section 2: Social-Cultural Aspects of PA and Tourism		
January 29th	**Guest Speaker:** Keith Bosak Tourism Development & Sustainability	
February 3rd	Displacement & Coexistence	
February 5th	Empowerment & Dependence	
February 10th	Cultural Invasion and Authenticity	
February 12th	Cultural Exchange & Local Relationships	
February 17th	**NO CLASS: President's Day**	
February 19th	Voluntourism & Interview Sharing	**Interview Assignment**
Section 3: Environmental Aspects of PA and Tourism		
February 24th	Mt. Everest: Dealing with the mounting human waste	
February 26th	Last Chance Tourism & Climate Change	
March 2nd	Wilderness: When have we ventured too far?	
March 4th	Linkages between Human & Ecosystem Health	
March 9th	Management for transboundary wildlife and landscapes/seascapes	
Section 4: Economic Aspects of PA and Tourism		
March 11th	Exclusive tourism: What is the cost of access?	**Midterm**

Mar 16th-18th	**NO CLASS:** Spring Break	
March 23rd	Pro-poor tourism	
March 25th	Trophy Hunting: Is a tusk worth it?	
March 30th	Nature-based outdoor economy in Montana	
April 1st	Destination Image & Branding	**Grant/Data Activity**
April 6th	**NO CLASS:** Final Paper Work and Check Ins	
	Section 5: Tools and Strategies of PA and Tourism	
April 8th	**Guest Speaker: Charles Bescanon**	
April 13th	**TBD**	
April 15th	Social Media, Apps, and Drones: Growing role in connecting visitors, communication, & monitoring	
April 20th	Soundscapes, Virtual Reality, and Simulation Tools	
April 22nd	Carrying Capacity: Misconceptions and Utility	
April 27th	Presentations	
April 29th	Final Reflections, Remaining Questions	
Exam Week		**Final Paper**