

WILD 180 - Careers in Wildlife Biology Spring 2022 – 2 Credits

**Instructor**

**Dr. Erim Gómez**, Please call me Dr. Gómez or Dr. Gee!

**Office:** Forestry 309 **Email:** [erim.gomez@umontana.edu](mailto:erim.gomez@umontana.edu), Phone: 406-243-2406

*Students are welcome to follow me on my Public Research and Teaching IG: @CumbiaConservationist*

**Office Hours**

Tuesdays 2:00 - 4:00 PM and Wednesday 11:00-1:00 PM *Can be in-person or via Zoom*

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

**Colter Feuerstein** [colter.feuerstein@umontana.edu](mailto:colter.feuerstein@umontana.edu)

*Please CC Colter Feuerstein on all emails regarding absences, assignment questions, scores, or other course-related questions. Questions not related to assignments or class can be sent just to Dr. Gómez.*

**Learning Assistants**

Izzy Gibbs [isabelle.gibbs@umconnect.umt.edu](mailto:isabelle.gibbs@umconnect.umt.edu)

Justin Griggs [justin.griggs@umconnect.umt.edu](mailto:justin.griggs@umconnect.umt.edu)

**Lecture Times:** 10:00 AM – 10:50 AM – Tuesday (T) and Thursday (R)

**Location:** Jeannette Rankin Hall 202

**Class is Face to Face: This is the expectation. Please email me if you have to Zoom into class for illness, quarantine, or need accommodation. If you do not have the accommodation, you are expected to attend in person.**

**For Zoom Meeting**

<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/99786294300>

**Meeting ID:** 997 8629 4300

**Passcode:** 573597

**Course Objectives**

*This is a first-year 2 credit class and is taught as such.* Learn about the wildlife biology profession and associated career opportunities. (75% of the course)

- a. Learn to write an effective resume
  - b. Learn to write an effective cover letter
  - c. Learn where to seek career opportunities and experiences
  - d. Learn from personal experience from wildlife and conservation professions.
2. Develop a basic understanding of wildlife biology (25%).
    - a. The historical origins and development of wildlife management and conservation in North America, including the “North American” Model of Wildlife Management
    - b. Fundamental concepts underlying wildlife biology, management, and conservation

*Note: This is a Careers in Wildlife Biology Class, not Introduction to Wildlife Biology. If you want to take an introductory class, please take WILD 105N Wildlife and People, which is only offered in the fall.*

### Course Website

**MOODLE [UM Online](#).** When you log-in to Moodle, you will be able to find and access our course website (WILD 180 – Careers in Wildlife Biology). There is an online Moodle 101 course to assist you in learning the basics of navigating and using Moodle.

### Readings

Readings to be posted through Moodle. There is no textbook for this class but “A Sand County Almanac” by Aldo Leopold is recommended for all wildlife and conservation students.

### Class Material

**Required:** Notebook paper that you can turn in after class. *The online students will be required to post their thoughts on Moodle.*

**Usefully:** One of the following: tablet, laptop, or smartphone for attendance or class activity (if you have one).

### Lecture Schedule and Classroom Learning Environment

A lecture will be delivered each class period by the professor, teaching assistant, or a guest lecturer. Lectures will be recorded. Lectures will be based on a Powerpoint presentation, which will be made available to students after the lecture via the course website. **Students may be quizzed on all information contained within Powerpoint presentations and any other information presented during lectures.** Class periods will also include small group discussions facilitated by the Teaching Assistant and Learning Assistants. The purpose of these discussions is to enhance classroom learning by providing students the opportunity to engage with their peers in dialogue on the topics covered in class. **To allow time for quality classroom discussions, not all material contained within Powerpoint presentations will be formally presented during class time.** Thus, students will need to study all material contained within Powerpoint presentations for each quiz, regardless of whether the given material was specifically presented during class.

#### Think, Pair and Share.

We ask a lot of questions in this class. So we use the [Think, Pair, and Share Method](#). I will ask a question that may or may not have an answer. You will write it out, then pair and share it with a classmate or 2. I may also cold-call on you after this exercise. This includes students that have to Zoom. Sometimes I will ask questions and just call on students who raise their hands. I will never cold-call a student without doing the Think Pair and Share exercise.

### Quizzes

There will be several quizzes. The quizzes will focus heavily on course material presented in lectures and associated Powerpoint presentations, big themes, and guest speakers' advice. Quizzes may also include material associated with assignments and assigned readings. All quizzes are open notes and taken outside of class time. You are on the honor system to work on your own. This is the expectation.

#### Zoom Recordings

Be aware that all classes are recorded. The link to the Zoom recordings **may** be posted the day the quizzes are posted. This is so students have to participate in class and not rely on Zoom recordings only. I want students to be present. I do however make PowerPoints available the day I present them.

### Assignments

There will be three **MAJOR** assignments made throughout the course to enhance your learning of the course material. **You will be expected to complete the assignments outside of class and submit them**

through Moodle on or before the assigned due date. In the event you encounter a problem uploading your assignment to Moodle, you may email the assignment to the instructors. Assignments turned in within 1 week after the due date will be deducted 50% accordingly. Assignments will not be accepted >1 week past the due date.

### Course Grade

This class is offered for traditional letter grades only (A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F).

### Points

#### Quizzes

Pre-Assessment Quiz	5pts	<i>You get all points for just taking this quiz.</i>
Syllabus Quiz	5pts	
Quiz 1	20pts	
Quiz 2	20pts	
Quiz 3	20pts	
Quiz 4	20pts	
Post-Assessment Quiz	5pts	

#### Assignments

My Wildlife Story	10pts
Resume	25pts
Cover Letter	30pts
Find Dream Jobs Assignment	30pts

Total 190pts

### Attendance Policy

**Students are expected to attend all classes in person** unless they have an accommodation or have already communicated a reason for absence or zoom attendance with me.

**I will post a Moodle code for attendance during class.** You can only enter the code during class. Moodle code may be entered at the beginning, middle, or toward the end of class. So please bring a charged laptop, tablet, or smartphone. If you don't have either please connect with me to find another way to get credit for attending class.

**All students get 4 free absences (excused or otherwise). Missing more than 4 classes (2 weeks) will result in a 5% total grade deduction and missing 5 will be a 10%. More than 6 unexcused absences will result in failure.** Attendance is mandatory; your desire to learn and do well in the Course will dictate your presence. Students are individually responsible for all information presented in lectures, guest lectures, assigned readings, on the Course Moodle website, and class assignments. It is especially important that you are present for quizzes. In the case of medical or other emergencies (e.g., legitimate, planned absences), I will work with the student individually in terms of rescheduling an exam time. Formal documentation may be required for legitimate emergencies that require a student to miss an assignment or quiz. *Before you email me and ask me if you will or have missed something important.* [Read this humorous essay.](#)

**Speaker Series TBA** Half to a third of the class will be guest speakers. **Please do not have private conversations when I or a guest is speaking. Please ask questions to the guest speakers.**

## General Schedule

- Jan. My Wild(life) Story, History of Wildlife Management  
Resumes
- Feb. Ethics of Wildlife Management  
Cover Letter
- March: Hunting and Population Modeling  
Graduate School and Application
- April: Future of Wildlife and Natural Resource Conservation  
Career Preparation, Skills and Dream Job

## Assignment Due Dates All Due on at 11:59 PM

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Your Wildlife Story | Thursday, January 27  |
| Resume              | Thursday, February 17 |
| Cover Letter        | Thursday, March 31    |
| Dream Job           | Thursday, April 28    |

**Note: All assignments must be submitted in PDF format.** Any other format and the assignment will be **dock 10%**. If you turn-in a copy that can't be opened, we will assume you didn't turn it in because you effectively didn't.

## Quizzes are Posted in Moodle on Fridays and Due that Tuesdays at 11:59 PM

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-Assesment Quiz  | Tuesday, January 18  |
| Syllabus Quiz       | Tuesday, January 25  |
| Quiz 1              | Tuesday, February 15 |
| Quiz 2              | Tuesday, March 15    |
| Quiz 3              | Tuesday, April 19    |
| Post-Assesment Quiz | Tuesday, May 10      |
| Quiz 4              | Tuesday, May 10      |

**No Final Exam; only a quiz 4 worth 20pts.**

*The final quiz may be a mix of cumulative questions and questions from April 19 through May 5th.*

*I reserve the right to add mini-assignments given reasonable notice.*

## Emails

Note: On a daily basis, I receive 20-40 emails that are related to the work that I do for the university. I spend several hours a day reading and responding to emails. **Please read the syllabus to see if your question is answered in the syllabus.** Try and ask assignment questions in class when I ask for

questions. For other questions you may not want to ask in front of the whole class, you may speak to me after class. If not, please email me or see me during office hours.

### Email Policy

All professors, not just Dr. Gómez, are *only* expected to respond to emails during working hours and business days, and generally within 2 business days. If I don't get back to you within **2 business days**, please email me again.

### Audio Responses to Emails

**To save time and be more effective, I may respond to emails with a short audio or video clip.** Please don't share or post these recordings. I do this because I can give students a quicker and more detailed response this way. **If you would rather have a written response, please say that in the email or reply asking for a written message.**

### Sending Professor or TA an Email

I expect emails to myself and the teaching assistant from students to be **composed professionally**, a **CLEAR** subject line that **CLEARLY** identifies the COURSE [i.e., Subject: WBIO 180: Descriptive Subject Heading], and a clear, concise question. [Here is a link on how to email a professor](#)

### Email Example

Subject Line: WILD 370 Question on next week's assignment.

Hello Dr. Gomez,

I am a student in your Wildlife Habitat course. I have a question about the report due next Thursday and I was not able to find the answer on the assignment details. Should our report draw only on readings listed on the syllabus or can I incorporate scholarly articles I read on my own as long as it fits with the subject of the assignment?

Best,  
Juanita Ramirez

### Setting up a meeting

**An Outlook invitation is required for meetings with me.** Please send an outlook invitation once a meeting time has been agreed upon, even if the meeting time is during office hours. **If a meeting isn't in my Outlook Calendar, don't expect me to show up.** In my mind, if the meeting isn't in my Outlook calendar the meeting doesn't exist. As a professional, you will need to send Outlook invitations.

**Students are responsible to set an Outlook invitation for meetings.** Below are general instructions. However, there are multiple resources you can search for online if you need further assistance.

1. In Outlook Calendar, select New Appointment.
2. If you want, select Invite Attendees to add people and make your appointment a meeting.
3. Add people in the To field, and then enter a Subject, Location, Start time and End time.
4. Select Scheduling Assistant to check the availability for attendees.
5. Select Send to send the meeting invitation.

### [Tutorial for Outlook Application](#)

### 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](#). Plagiarism qualifies as academic misconduct. Students often misunderstand plagiarism, particularly when reporting information from the web or other digital sources. Anytime you extract information from another source for an assignment or paper, it is critical that you cite your source. If you report text verbatim, you must place the text in quotes and cite the source accordingly. We are less concerned with the format of your citations at this point than the fact that you attempt to appropriately reference the source.

### **Accessibility Syllabus Statement**

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, [ode@umontana.edu](mailto:ode@umontana.edu), or visit [www.umt.edu/disability](http://www.umt.edu/disability) for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

*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.*

### **COVID Policy**

- Masks are required in UM buildings
- *Consider wearing a N95, KN95, or KF94.*
- Don't come to class if you have COVID symptoms
- Zoom into class if you can't come to class in-person but email the professor.
- Contact Office for Disability Equity (ODE) if you need an accommodation
- All classes will be recorded but will be posted closer to the quiz.
- If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID symptoms, please don't come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330.
- UM recommends students get the COVID vaccine and booster. Please direct your questions or concerns about vaccines to the Curry Health Center.
- Drinking liquids and eating food is discouraged within the classroom.
- Mask use is required in vehicles when traveling to field sites as part of class/fieldwork.
- **Please note this class is being recorded. Notifying students is a requirement if this is the case**

For more information go to UM COVID plan at <https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus/campus-covid-plan/default.php>

### **[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, 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 must 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.

### **ZOOM – Student Online Classroom Etiquette**

- **Cameras should be on, please.**
- **Mute when not speaking.**
- **Do not record and post Zoom to social media.** Lecturer material is the property of the instructor.
- **No Zoom pranks!** They are distracting to the learning process.
- 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 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, write it in the chat so an LA can ask in-class. Or **unmute yourself and ask through Zoom.**
- 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.
- 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, basic hygiene, eating, chewing gum, talking to others in your home, etc.) before entering a Zoom classroom.
- Please do not use profanity or inappropriate language.
- **Pets are allowed to make appearances.** 🐾