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WILD 370.R00: Wildlife Habitat Conservation & Management

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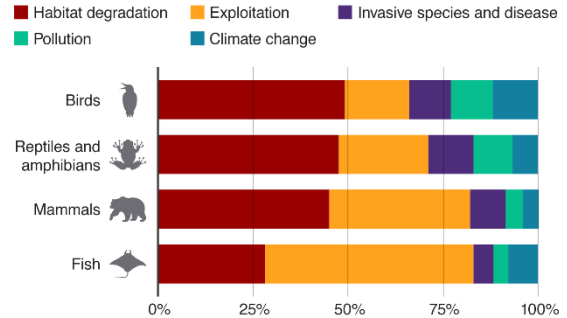
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Habitat loss is a major threat to biodiversity

The Living Planet Report assesses key drivers of species decline



Note: A sample of 3,789 populations evaluated by the Living Planet Index

Source: WWF Living Planet Report 2018

BBC

WILD370: Wildlife Habitat Conservation & Management

Lead Instructor: Erim Gómez, PhD

Email: erim.gomez@mso.umt.edu

Office Hours:

Wednesdays 11:00 AM-1:00PM

Fridays: Noon - 2:00 PM

Co-Instructor: Eric Palm, PhD Student

Email: eric.palm@umontana.edu

Lecture: Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM-12:20 PM Via Zoom

Lab: Thursday 1:00PM-4:50PM Via Zoom

Zoom Information

<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/95873310169?pwd=Rk1uSG45SDIycHRLcXFjaDVOOXdSQTO9>

Meeting ID: 958 7331 0169

Passcode: 050972

Course Description

Application of principles of wildlife biology to conservation and management of wildlife habitats including statistical and field applications.

Course Objectives

To gain a familiarity with the theoretical underpinnings of the importance of habitat to wildlife species in terrestrial ecosystems. To do this, students will explore habitat study design, data collection, and statistical modeling of wildlife habitat.

To apply this theoretical basis to wildlife habitat conservation issues. Students will be expected to apply theories to practical conservation issues.

To think independently, critically, and creatively about issues with conservation components. Students will have opportunities to hone their critical thinking skills by evaluating the work of professional and amateur scientists/journalists, and by presenting a habitat management plan.

Prerequisites

We reserve the right to edit and revise the syllabus given a 2 week notice.

Ecology (BIOE 370/371) prior, not concurrent; Statistics (STAT 216/WILD 240); or approval by the instructor. Additionally, students must have senior or junior level standing in Wildlife Biology.

Course Website

MOODLE: moodle.umt.edu/login

Course emails will be sent through Moodle using your email account information in Moodle. Please read these emails before coming to class.

“A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.” -The Land Ethic, A Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold

Assignments

What is Wildlife Habitat 10pts

Habitat Theory 10pts

Habitat Loss and Fragmentation 20pts

Species Richness and Precipitation 20pts

Habitat Use 20pts

Critical Précis 20pts

Science Seminar 10pts

Journal Review 2 X 10pts

Wildlife Refuge Evaluation 30pts

Habitat Management Plan 50pts

Quizzes 4X20pt

No Finals

Selected Topics

1)Wildlife, Habitat, Conservation, and Management

2)Niche Theory

3)Habitat and the Niche

4)Theories of Habitat Selection

5)Habitat Selection

6)Measuring/Modeling Wildlife Habitat

7)Applying Habitat Models to Conservation

8)Island Biogeography Theory

9)Habitat Fragmentation

10)Restoration Ecology

11)Disturbance Ecology

12)Corridors and Connectivity

13)Community-Based Conservation

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14)Landscape Conservation

15)Focal Species and Ecosystem Management

16)Climate Change Biology and Habitat

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.** 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.

The quiz will focus heavily on course material presented in lectures and associated Powerpoint presentations, but may also include material associated with assignments and assigned readings.

Assignments

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.

Grading Scale

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

Grading Disputes

Discrepancies must be addressed within **two-weeks** of assignment grade being posted or handed back.

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. 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,
Juana Ramirez

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Email Policy

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 370: Descriptive Subject Heading], and a clear, concise question. [Here is a link on how to email a professor.](#)

Outlook Invitation

If you want to set up a meeting with me, please send me an Outlook invitation. If there is no outlook invitation in my outlook calendar, there is no meeting. Please send me an email too. Everyone should know how to set up an Outlook Meeting invite. [If you are not sure how to do this, please click on this link to learn.](#)

All meetings this semester will be via Zoom. [We can use this Zoom link for meeting with](#) Dr. Gomez (Meeting ID 973 9827 5141).

Outlook Invitation

If you want to set up a meeting with me, please send me an Outlook invitation. **If there is no event in my outlook calendar, there is no meeting.** Please send me an email too. Everyone should know how to set up an Outlook Meeting invite. [If you are not sure how to do this, please click on this link to learn.](#)

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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.

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 have a disability that may adversely affect your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS in Lommason 154 or call them at 406.243.2243. We will work with you and DSS to provide an appropriate modification.

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)

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- 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.

Online Classroom Etiquette Suggestions

- **Please, it is highly encouraged that you have your camera on.** *However, it will not be mandated.*
- **I will dock points for tasteless and/or distracting "Zoom" pranks.**
- 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, use the "Raise Hand" feature. Then unmute yourself after your teacher calls on you.
- 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, 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.
- All Zoom lectures are recorded so please act accordingly.

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