Course Syllabus

Syllabus - NR 2000 Section 3 - Fall 2016 - 1 credit
Wednesdays, 3:00 – 5:00 pm, NR 105 and Field Trips

Instructor: Mike Kuhns -- Office NR 206A inside the Wildland Resources office suite; mike.kuhns@usu.edu; 435-797-4056.

Class Objectives:
At the end of this course, you should be able to...
1. Develop priority setting and time management skills needed to be able to schedule activities and earn points necessary to obtain the grade you want in this class.
2. Develop an understanding of the course and other requirements of your major, the importance of prerequisites and course sequences, and the importance of having a plan that will lead to graduation.
3. Meet, associate with, and learn from upper division students through participation in professional, student organization activities.
4. Develop an understanding of some of the careers and work done by graduates of Natural Resources, and develop an understanding of how your interests relate to issues dealt with by the QCNR.
5. Develop an understanding of the relationship of some of the global issues faced by humankind with management of natural resources.
6. Develop friendships that will make your college experience and career more enjoyable and productive.
7. Understand and appreciate your College and Department as your USU home.

Course Grading/Assignments
1. Meet with your academic advisor (report required). Required; 250 points
2. Interview your faculty advisor (report required). Required; 250 points
3. Participation in two activities organized by student organizations (reports required). Required; 100 points each for a total of 200 points
   Note: Students completing these first three activities (and nothing else) pass the course with a “C-” (total points for these three assignments equals 700 points). If you don’t complete even one of these you will end up with an “F” grade for the course.
4. Three readings from A Sand County Almanac (reports required). 30 points each for a total of 90 points
5. Complete resume and job application exercise (partly in class exercise). 60 points
6. Participate in the three in-class field trips (role will be taken). 50 points each for a total of 150 points

Total Points Possible: 1000 points

Grades:
A > 930 points
A- = 900 to 929 points
B+ = 870 to 899 points
B = 830 to 869 points
B- = 800 to 829 points
C+ = 770 to 799 points
C = 730 to 769 points
C- = 700 to 729 points

F = Required work not completed

Note that QCNR opening social is on August 31 at 4 pm on the patio of the NR building. We have class that day, but will finish in time for you to attend, which, along with the required write-up, gets you credit for attending one event.

Course Schedule
Course meets Wednesdays 3–5 pm in NR 105 or in the field (transportation provided).

Week 1, August 31 -- Introduction, course overview and expectations, introduction to professionalism and “professional” majors.

Week 2, September 7 -- Aquatics Field Trip.

Week 3, September 14 -- Faculty Advisors; Natural Resource Careers and Job Search Exercise; first report from A Sand County Almanac is due.
Week 4, September 21 -- Human Dimensions Field Trip

Week 5, September 28 -- Faculty Advisors, Natural Resource Careers and Job Search Exercise; second report from A Sand County Almanac is due.

Week 6, October 5 -- Terrestrial Ecology Field Trip

Week 7, October 12 -- Last class: Job Search / Resume Exercise is due; third report from A Sand County Almanac is due.

October 14 -- NR Event reports (2) and Resume/Career report due.

December 7 -- Reports on Meeting with faculty advisor and meeting with QCNR Academic Resource Center (Shelly Kotynek) due.

Course Administration

Course Fee: You paid a $17 fee for this course that covers the cost of field trip transportation.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Students with physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disabilities Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn, 797-2444 voice, 797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print or digital) are available with advance notice.

Academic Integrity: Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all USU students. Infractions (cheating, falsification, and plagiarism) and their associated penalties are described in the USU Academic Policies and Procedures Manual (www.usu.edu/policies). Click on "C" for cheating, "F" for falsification, and "P" for plagiarism. Examples of cheating that will not be tolerated include copying of another student's work (such as a report on a meeting), claiming to participate in an activity in which you did not participate, turning in the same report twice for grade, and copying material from a report without providing proper credit.

Aldo Leopold Readings

Our textbook is A Sand County Almanac written by Aldo Leopold in the 1940s. Leopold is considered to be the "father" of both the practice of wildlife management and the wilderness movement. The book has informed and changed the environmental movement and natural resource management, and has stimulated a widespread interest in ecology.

There are three required readings in A Sand County Almanac. A report is required for each.

Reading 1 -- “Forward” through the chapter on “July” in A Sand County Almanac. Report due on September 14.

Reading 2 -- “August” through “December” in A Sand County Almanac. Report due on September 28.

Reading 3 -- Chapters titled “Conservation Esthetic” through “The Land Ethic” in A Sand County Almanac. Report due on October 12.

Besides introducing you to Aldo Leopold, the purpose of this exercise is to help you translate your life experiences into your philosophy about natural resources. I hope that each reading will trigger a memory of some life event for you. Your assignment is to write a report on that memory.

* Identify the specific writing of Leopold that triggered your memory (chapter, pages, etc.).

* Describe the experience (where did it happen, who did it happen with). Go into some detail about the place. What did it look like, feel like, smell like. Describe how the people you were with (parents, grandparents, siblings, spouse, friends, Scout troop, and/or teachers) that made the experience such a special memory.

* Describe how the experience affected your interest in natural resources.

Reports should be approximately 1 - 3 pages in length. Each report is worth 30 points.

For more information about Aldo Leopold and his work, you can view: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abiZ3VZ9xQ -- Aldo Leopold, the father of modern game management and the Wilderness system had his first duty assignment with the Forest Service in Arizona. This story takes a look at Aldo’s life and early career. 8 minutes, 30 seconds.

https://vimeo.com/8669977 -- A preview of the full-length documentary file about Aldo Leopold, Green Fire highlights Leopold’s extraordinary career, tracing how he influenced the modern environmental movement. 13 minutes, 30 seconds.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_29ZIKyJJPo -- This award-winning film chronicles the life of Aldo Leopold, father of modern ecology. In addition, it portrays, month by month, the natural events described in his seminal book, A Sand Almanac (58 minutes).

Assignments Summary:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed Aug 31, 2016</td>
<td><img src="https://usu.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=626162&amp;include_contexts=course_415401" alt="Session 1 - Intros, overview, QCNR social" /></td>
<td>3pm to 5pm</td>
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<td>Wed Sep 7, 2016</td>
<td><img src="https://usu.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=626161&amp;include_contexts=course_415401" alt="Session 2 - Aquatic Field Trip" /></td>
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<td>Wed Sep 14, 2016</td>
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<td><img src="https://usu.instructure.com/courses/415401/assignments/2075455" alt="Reading Assignment 1" /></td>
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<td>Wed Sep 21, 2016</td>
<td><img src="https://usu.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=626164&amp;include_contexts=course_415401" alt="Session 4 - Human Dimensions Field Trip" /></td>
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<td>Wed Oct 5, 2016</td>
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<td><img src="https://usu.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=626167&amp;include_contexts=course_415401" alt="Session 7 - Summary" /></td>
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