ENVS 4000  Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management

Course Description
This course focuses on balancing science and social values in ecosystem management and decision-making. Topics include environmental justice, communication and behavior change strategies, landscape perception and attitudes, resource-dependent communities, public involvement, and conflict management.

Course Objectives
In this course we will explore the relationships and connections between people and the natural resources we use and manage. The overall goal is for students to gain a foundation for an informed, critical approach to contemporary management issues at the interface of human and natural systems. By the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Discuss a variety of principles, theories, and challenges surrounding human dimensions of natural resources.
2. Exercise professional skills and knowledge in the application of social science to natural resource management decisions.
3. Analyze, critically assess, and engage with diverse ideas and points of view, and apply this ability to conflict management and communication practices.
4. Identify and describe interdependencies and linkages within complex social-ecological systems and their importance to management goals and natural resource decision-making.

Instructor
Temis G. Taylor, Ph.D. (she/her)
Temis.Taylor@usu.edu

Office Hours: By appointment via Zoom or phone

Teaching Assistant:
Hongchao Zhang
Course Resources

There is no required text for this course. Readings, videos, recordings, and websites will be available in Canvas as files or links.

Course Requirements

Each student will:

1. Read, watch, and/or listen to materials presented weekly.
2. Complete weekly assignments, quizzes, surveys, and/or activities.
3. Interact with other students within the course weekly via a discussion board.
4. Participate in in-class discussions and activities.
5. Write one expository essay.
6. Take two midterms and one final exam.
7. Proactively communicate with your instructors if problems arise.

Grade Scheme

The following grading standards will be used in this class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100 % to 93.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>&lt; 93.0 % to 90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>&lt; 90.0 % to 87.0%</td>
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</tbody>
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### Course Policies

**Etiquette and Student Participation.** Students are expected to think, question, problem-solve and discuss information presented in class. Be open-minded and flexible. Try to understand the viewpoints of other people. Ask yourself how they see the world, what assumptions and beliefs they hold. Be willing to examine your own worldviews, assumptions and beliefs. Expect and tolerate uncertainty. Show respect for each other, even if you disagree. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. I reserve the right to excuse any student who does not conduct themselves with civility.

**Discussion Practices:**

- Speak from the I. This is where we own our statements and views about things but do not presume to be able to speak for others. We do not assume they hold the same views and so do not speak in a way that implies others agree with us.
- Speak in draft. We’re learning and unlearning at the same time. Fumbles and mistakes will happen.
- Offer grace to yourself and community. Be generous with others.

**Privacy and Confidentiality.** Respect the privacy and confidentiality of others in this class. No unauthorized recording or images. In other words: *What’s learned leaves. What’s shared stays.*

**JEDI Principles.** We will seek to uphold the principles of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the content and conduct of this class.
Science as the Foundation. We will center best available science and evidence-based practices in this class.

Questions and Concerns. Please talk to me or your TA if you are struggling, feeling stuck, have questions or are unclear about anything in this course. We want you to do well, and will help if we can. If you are having difficulty, be proactive in seeking help.

Take care of yourself. Attend to your access needs as you need.

The instructor may alter any part of the schedule during the course of as the learning environment and course progression require.

Attendance and Excused Absences Policy
You are expected to attend and participate in class on your assigned dates.

Late Work
Please note that I will not accept late work. If you foresee an issue with an impending due date, please contact me immediately and we will work together to come up with a resolution to make sure that the work is turned in and graded appropriately. If a major issue occurs that has impeded your ability to turn in an assignment on-time, please let me know immediately.

Library Services
All USU students attending classes in Logan, at our Regional Campuses, or online can access all databases, e-journals, and e-books regardless of location. Additionally, the library will mail printed books to students, at no charge to them. Students can also borrow books from any Utah academic library. Take advantage of all library services and learn more at libguides.usu.edu/rc.

Classroom Civility
Utah State University supports the principle of freedom of expression for both faculty and students. The University respects the rights of faculty to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede the learning process. Disruptive classroom behavior will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Read Student Code Article V Section V-3 (https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article5) for more information.

University Policies & Procedures

COVID-19 Classroom Protocols
In order to continue to provide a high standard of instruction at USU, and to limit the spread of COVID-19 during the pandemic, students are asked to follow certain classroom protocols. These protocols are in place not only for your safety but also the safety of the rest of the campus community. You will be asked to clean your desk area at the start of each class, sit in designated seats, wear face coverings, and follow dismission instructions. There may be individual medical circumstances that prevent some students from using face coverings. These circumstances will be rare, but if they do exist, we ask that everyone be respectful. It is imperative that we each do our part so that on-campus instruction can continue.

**Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibilities**

Academic freedom is the right to teach, study, discuss, investigate, discover, create, and publish freely. Academic freedom protects the rights of faculty members in teaching and of students in learning. Freedom in research is fundamental to the advancement of truth. Faculty members are entitled to full freedom in teaching, research, and creative activities, subject to the limitations imposed by professional responsibility. Faculty Code Policy #403 (http://www.usu.edu/hr/files/uploads/Policies/403.pdf) further defines academic freedom and professional responsibilities.

**Academic Integrity – "The Honor System"**

Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge:

"I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity."

A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The instructor of this course will take appropriate actions in response to Academic Dishonesty, as defined the University’s Student Code. Acts of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- **Cheating**: using, attempting to use, or providing others with any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, examinations, or in any other academic exercise or activity. Unauthorized assistance includes:
  - Working in a group when the instructor has designated that the quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity be done “individually;”
  - Depending on the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
  - Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for oneself, in taking an examination or preparing academic work;
  - Acquiring tests or other academic material belonging to a faculty member, staff member, or another student without express permission;
  - Continuing to write after time has been called on a quiz, test, examination, or any other academic exercise or activity;
  - Submitting substantially the same work for credit in more than one class, except with prior approval of the instructor; or engaging in any form of research fraud.

- **Falsification**: altering or fabricating any information or citation in an academic exercise or activity.
• **Plagiarism**: representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one's own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes using materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the sale of term papers or other academic materials.

For additional information go to: ARTICLE VI. University Regulations Regarding Academic Integrity (https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6)

**Sexual Harassment/Title IX**

Utah State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free from acts of sexual misconduct and discrimination and to fostering respect and dignity for all members of the USU community. Title IX and USU Policy 339 (http://www.usu.edu/policies/339) address sexual harassment in the workplace and academic setting.

The university responds promptly upon learning of any form of possible discrimination or sexual misconduct. Any individual may contact USU’s Office of Equity (https://equity.usu.edu/) for available options and resources or clarification. The university has established a complaint procedure to handle all types of discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment (USU Policy 305 (http://www.usu.edu/policies/305/)), and has designated the Office of Equity Director/Title IX Coordinator as the official responsible for receiving and investigating complaints of sexual harassment.

**Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy**

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term ‘extenuating’ circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

**Students with Disabilities**

USU welcomes students with disabilities. If you have, or suspect you may have, a physical, mental health, or learning disability that may require accommodations in this course, please contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) (http://www.usu.edu/drc/) as early in the semester as possible (University Inn # 101, (435) 797-2444, drc@usu.edu (mailto:drc@usu.edu)). All disability related accommodations must be approved by the DRC. Once approved, the DRC will coordinate with faculty to provide accommodations.

Students who are at a higher risk for complications from COVID-19 or who contract COVID-19 may also be eligible for accommodations.

**Diversity Statement**

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact:

- Division of Student Affairs: https://studentaffairs.usu.edu (https://studentaffairs.usu.edu/), (435) 797-1712, studentservices@usu.edu (mailto:studentservices@usu.edu), TSC 220
- Student Legal Services: https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services (https://ususa.usu.edu/student-association/student-advocacy/legal-services), (435) 797-2912, TSC 326,
Access and Diversity: http://accesscenter.usu.edu, (435) 797-1728, access@usu.edu; TSC 315
Multicultural Programs: http://accesscenter.usu.edu/multiculture, (435) 797-1728, TSC 315
LGBTQA Programs: http://accesscenter.usu.edu/lgbtqa, (435) 797-1728, TSC 3145
Provost’s Office Diversity Resources: https://www.usu.edu/provost/diversity, (435) 797-8176

You can learn about your student rights by visiting:
The Code of Policies and Procedures for Students at Utah State University: https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode

Grievance Process

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: Article VII.

Full details for USU Academic Policies and Procedures can be found at:

- Student Conduct (http://www.usu.edu/studentconduct)
- Student Code (https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/)
- Academic Integrity (https://studentconduct.usu.edu/studentcode/article6)
- USU Selected Academic Policies and Procedures (http://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty-life/syllabus.cfm)

Emergency Procedures

In the case of a drill or real emergency, classes will be notified to evacuate the building by the sound of the fire/emergency alarm system or by a building representative. In the event of a disaster that may interfere with either notification, evacuate as the situation dictates (i.e., in an earthquake when shaking ceases or immediately when a fire is discovered). Turn off computers and take any personal items with you. Elevators should not be used; instead, use the closest stairs.

Mental Health

Mental health is critically important for the success of USU students. As a student, you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. Utah State University provides free services for students to assist them with addressing these and other concerns. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Students are also encouraged to download the “SafeUT App” (https://healthcare.utah.edu/uni/programs/safe-ut-smartphone-app) to their smartphones. The SafeUT application is a 24/7 statewide crisis text and tip service that provides real-time crisis intervention to students through texting and a confidential tip program that can help anyone with emotional crises, bullying, relationship problems, mental health, or suicide related issues.