

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND POLICY (WILCO)

WINTER 2015 SYLLABUS

Winter Quarter Elective Credits: 4

Class time and Room: Mondays 6-10 pm; Room: Sem 2 - A2109

Instructor: Dr. Dina Roberts

Contact information: Office Lab 1, 3005; (360) 867-6636; robertsd@evergreen.edu

Office hours: Mondays from 3-5 pm or Tuesdays (by Appointment)

Required readings: The following books are required and are available in the TESC Bookstore

1. Arctic Voices, Resistance at the Tipping Point. 2013. Edited by S. Banerjee. Seven Stories Press, NY.

2. Conservation By Proxy. 2010. Tim Caro. Island Press, Washington, DC.

3. Keeping the Wild: Against the Domestication of Earth. 2014. Edited by G. Wuerthner, E. Crist, and T. Butler. Island Press. (Reading Assignment KTW)

Additional Peer Review Articles and Book Chapters as posted on Moodle

Course Description:

This elective will explore the ecological and political aspects of wildlife conservation from global, regional and local scales, with special emphasis on Threatened and Endangered (T&E) species recovery in climate impacted ecoregions, such as arctic, marine and alpine habitats. We will also explore climate change as a driver of emerging 21st century wildlife management and conservation policies. Students will participate in lecture and seminar discussions, in-class exercises, a visit the WA Legislature and perhaps in an optional field trip to Woodland Park Zoo. We will invite expert agency scientists, government managers and policy analysts to speak to the class. Student learning will be assessed through class discussions, writing exercises, short quizzes and an oral presentation and through a final science policy paper on a topic of each student's interest.

Course Goals:

This course will:

- (1) provide students with knowledge of fish and wildlife ecology and conservation policy at multiple scales

- (2) promote critical thinking concerning key issues in wildlife management,
- (3) provide students with knowledge of novel approaches that are being implemented to conserve global biodiversity, with an emphasis on threatened and endangered species and recovery efforts,
- (4) allow student to engage with scientists, managers, and policy specialists to understand the role of science in policy making.

Methods of Instruction:

In this course we will use a variety of methods including readings, lectures, guest lectures, seminar and small group discussions, with a visit to policy makers during the 2015 legislative session.

Schedule by Week/Readings (DRAFT):

Week/ Date	Topic	Lecturer	Readings
1 01/05	Introduction – Overview of using conservation surrogates	Dina	Caro – Chapter 1 Banerjee - Intro
2 01/12	Using Umbrella Species, Arctic Ecology and Conservation Issues	Dina	Banerjee – Part 1 (pages 39 - 106); Caro – Chapter 4 (pages 99 - 125); Polar Bear Ecology Paper (Moodle)
3 01/19	MLK Day – No Class	No Class - Work on Policy Assignment (One paragraph description of topic and justification) due Week 4 during class	
4 01/26	Coral Reef Ecology, Using Indicator Species to Assess Environmental Change	Dina	Veron – Chapters 14-16 from “A Reef In Time” on Coral Reefs and Climate Change/Acidification (Moodle); Caro – Chapter 6 (159-186)
5 02/05	Amphibian Ecology – Oregon Spotted Frog Ecology and Conservation Genetics	Marc Hayes; Chelsea Waddell	Oregon Spotted Frog papers and Conservation

			Genetics on Moodle
6 02/09	Large Carnivore Ecology/Mgmt Using Keystone Species as Surrogates	Dina and Guest Speaker	Caro – Chapter 5 (127-157); KTW – Part 1 (3-64);
7	No Class – Presidents Day		
8 02/23	T & E Species Listing/Management	Guest Speaker – Noah Greenwald and TBD	Wilcove Chapter and KTW (Part 2 – pages 85-113; 137- 173)
9 03/02	Landscape Level Conservation – Challenges /Opportunities Protecting Caribou and Indigenous Rights	Dina	Banerjee (Pages 223-375); Caribou and Conservation Planning in the Boreal (Moodle)
10 03/09	Project Presentations	Students	Science/Policy Paper Due
11	Evaluation Week		

Course Evaluation Criteria:

Attendance – Attendance each week is required, especially as we have only 8 in-class periods this quarter with holidays. We will have an optional field trip to the Woodland Park Zoo and a Lobby Day Visit to the Capitol as well. More than one absence may result in loss of credit. Please contact faculty if an emergency or health related absence occurs.

Class Participation – The success of the class will be driven by student preparedness and participation.

Seminar Reading Question Prompts – Seminar reading prompts will be required each week to help facilitate participation in seminar discussions. Please use the weekly Moodle Forums to continue the discussion and post additional comments!

Quizzes/Workshops – Two short quizzes will be given during the quarter to assess learning

Science Policy Write Up – Each student will research a topic of interest on a species or ecosystem in Washington and assess impacts of climate change or other stressors. Student will write an 8 page analysis of these impacts and create a “Summary for Policy Makers” that condenses the findings into a two-page document or infographic that is due the final day of class March 9. Short 15 minute presentations by each student will be given during the final class period on March 9. Detailed instructions will be provided.

Participation in Visit your Elected Officials - Lobby Day at the Capitol Building TBD!