

NRM 3061 Wilderness and Protected Areas Management
Department of Recreation and Outdoor Studies
Green Mountain College
Spring 2006 (Rev. 1/13/06)

GENERAL INFORMATION

NRM 3061 Wilderness and Protected Areas Management
Location: Griswold 3
Instructor: Greg Brown
Phone: 287-8330
Office Hours: TBA

Credits: 3
Time: Mon/Thur 2:00-3:15
Office: Moses 160

Course Description

The course provides a broad understanding of the issues, challenges, and techniques for managing wilderness systems and protected areas both globally and in a local, regional context. The course covers philosophical, legal, political, and practical aspects of wilderness and protected areas management both historically and contemporaneously.

Course Objectives

Having successfully completed this course, you will be able to:

1. Explain why wilderness is a uniquely American concept.
2. Explain the historical foundation and legal basis for wilderness preservation.
3. Demonstrate what is meant by the paradox of wilderness management.
4. Explain how wilderness management policies emerged and management strategies evolved.
5. Critically evaluate wilderness management problems and find workable solutions.
6. Explain the context of “wilderness” within the larger framework of protected areas designation and management.
7. Describe global trends in protected areas management and conservation.
8. Explain and apply different criteria for evaluating wilderness suitability.
9. Identify the relevant works of key wilderness and protected areas authors and be able to critically appraise their ideas.
10. Apply informed and critical analysis to contemporary protected area issues.

Required Texts

Hendee, J. C. & Dawson, C. P. (Eds.). (2002). Wilderness management: Stewardship and protection of resources and values (3rd ed.). Golden, CO: Fulcrum Publishing.

Klyza, C. (Ed.) (2001). Wilderness Comes Home: Rewilding the Northeast Middlebury, VT: Middlebury College Press.

Nash, R. (2001). Wilderness and the American mind (4th ed.). New Haven, CT: Yale University Press. (Chapters provided by instructor)

Other readings are as noted.

Class Format

In this course we will learn from the readings using a seminar style that includes class discussion and small group activities. It is your responsibility to keep up with the assigned readings as per the syllabus. You are also encouraged to bring relevant wilderness and protected area news from the media to the attention of the class. The written requirements of the class include journal and video reviews and a wilderness observation assignment.

You will also be required to complete an assignment requiring at least one trip to a Vermont Wilderness area. Depending on the size of the class, we can do this as a group or it can be done on an individual basis. More specific information will be provided at a later time. Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible but no later than the first week of the semester.

Course Requirements

1. Unless otherwise instructed, you are required to submit all written material in word-processed format. Grammar, spelling, and writing style count in the assessment.
2. Class attendance and participation is expected.
3. Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day.
4. A trip to a Vermont Wilderness area is required to complete the course.

Grading

2 Exams	50%
Journal article and video reviews or (optional) wilderness suitability (GIS) assignment	20%
Wilderness observation assignment	20%
Class participation, discussion	10%

Course Schedule

Week 1	Jan. 17-20	Class Introduction Wilderness Foundations <i>Readings:</i> R. Nash, Preface, Introduction, Prologue, Chapters 1 & 2, pp. vii-43 (Greg will provide copies)
Week 2	Jan. 23-27	Wilderness Comes Home? <i>Readings:</i> Klyza, Chapters 1, 2, and 3. pp. 3-74.

- Week 3 Jan. 30-
Feb. 3 Legal Basis for Wilderness Management
Wilderness Management
Readings: Hendee & Dawson, Chapters 1 & 2, pp. 3-47
Public Law 88-577
- Week 4 Feb. 6-10 Wilderness Management
Readings: Hendee & Dawson, Chapters 4 & 5 (Part I & II), pp. 100-173
Video: American Values, American Wilderness
1st journal article review due
Student-led discussion on article reviews
- Week 5 Feb. 13-17 Wilderness Principles and Planning
Readings: Hendee & Dawson, Chapters 7 & 8, pp. 191-229
Video critique due
- Week 6 Feb. 20-24 Introduction to LAC
Readings:
- Stankey, G. H., Cole, D. N., Lucas, R. C., Peterson, M. E., & Frissell, S. S. (1985). The limits of acceptable change (LAC) system for wilderness planning. Ogden, UT: USDA Forest Service Intermountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, Gen. Tech. Rpt. INT-176.
- Stokes, G. L. (1990). The evolution of wilderness management: The Bob Marshall Wilderness complex. *Journal of Forestry* 88 (1): 15-20.
- 2nd journal article review due**
Student-led discussion on article reviews
- Week 7 Feb. 27-
Mar. 3 Wilderness Impacts
Readings: Hendee & Dawson, Chapter 9, pp. 231-261, AND
- William T. Borrie, Stephen F. McCool, and George H. Stankey. Protected Area Planning Principles and Strategies. In Lindberg, K., Wood, M.E., and Engeldrum, D. (Eds.) (1998). *Ecotourism : A guide for Planners and Managers*. Volume 2, pp. 133-154. (The Ecotourism Society, North Bennington, VT).
- Roggenbuck, J. W., Williams, D. R. & Watson, A. E. (1993). Defining acceptable conditions in wilderness. *Environmental Management* 17 (2): 187-197.
- Watson, A. & Cole, D. (1992). LAC indicators: An evaluation of progress and list of proposed indicators. In Merigliano, L. (Ed.) *Ideas for limits of acceptable change process*. Book Two. Washington, DC: USDA Forest Service, Recreation, Cultural Resources and Wilderness Management Staff.

Spring Break Mar. 6-11

- Week 8 Mar. 13-17 Wilderness Impacts (Continued)
Hendee & Dawson, Chapter 15, pp. 413-459, AND

Cole, D. N. (1994). Backcountry impact management: Lessons from research. *Trends* 31 (3): 10-14.

Cole, D. N. & Krumpe, E. E. (1992). Seven principles of low-impact wilderness recreation. *Western Wildlands* 18 (1): 39-43.

Wuerthner, G. (1986). The natural role of humans in wilderness. *Western Wildlands* 12 (2): 26-30.
- Week 9 Mar. 20-24 Wilderness Inventory Approaches

Readings. Klyza, Chapter 4, pp. 75-103.
Summary of Australian National Wilderness Inventory
- Week 10 Mar. 27-31 Management tools & techniques and wilderness recreation use
Readings: Hendee & Dawson, Chapter 16, pp. 461-503
Hendee & Dawson, Chapters 14, pp. 373-411, AND
Cole, D. N., Petersen, M. E. & Lucas, R. C. (1987). Managing wilderness recreation use: Common problems and potential solutions. Ogden, UT: USDA Forest Service Intermountain Research Station, General Technical Report INT-230.
3rd journal review due
Student-led discussion on article reviews
- Week 11 Apr. 3-7 Thinking Regionally: Ecological Reserve Design and Intercontinental Systems
Readings: Klyza, Chapters 5, 6, 7 pp. 107-181.
- Week 12 Apr. 10-14 Thinking Locally: The “Middle Landscape”
Readings: Klyza, Chapters 9, 10, 11 pp. 213-262
- Week 13 Apr. 19-21 Thinking Globally: Conservation on a Global Scale
Readings: TBA
- Week 14 Apr. 24-28 A Critical View of Wilderness
Readings: Klyza, Chapter 12 and Epilogue
Guha, R. A Critique of the Western Idea of Wilderness
- Week 15 May 1 Topic TBA
Final Exam Monday, May 8th 3:30 pm

Vermont Wilderness Observation Assignment

You are to visit one of the legally designated Wilderness areas in Vermont. The duration of your visit is up to you. The purpose of your visit is to conduct systematic observation, not to recreate. In your observation, you are to be looking for the following:

Wilderness Area Conditions.

Access: Describe the access to the wilderness. How did you get there? Is there an established trailhead? How far did you have to walk before entering the Wilderness area?

Signage: Describe the boundary of the Wilderness area. Is it clearly identified? Is there any perceptible change in landscape or vegetation when entering the Wilderness area? Was there a self-registration station when entering the Wilderness?

Trail conditions: Describe the trail conditions at various intervals. Is the trail marked? How? Is the trail ‘hardened’ at all? If so, how? Are there signs of trail erosion? Are there aids to foot travel such as steps, rails, waterbars, boardwalks, or constructed bridges?

Flora and fauna: Describe the general type of vegetation you encounter along with any fauna you observe.

Visitor encounters: Describe the number and type of encounters you have with other visitors to the Wilderness area.

Visitor impacts: Describe visitor impacts that you encounter (e.g., campsites, damaged trees, graffiti, litter, rock cairns) in the Wilderness area.

Note: You may want to create some observation data forms **before** conducting your observations. This will assist you in being **systematic** in your observations.

Wilderness Area Background. In addition to your observations inside the Wilderness area, you should provide the following:

1. Citation of the actual public law where your Wilderness area was legally created.
2. Description of all management plans and prescriptions for the wilderness area in the applicable general land management plan, (e.g., Green Mountain Land and Resource Management Plan or more specific plan if available (e.g., Backcountry Recreation Plan).

Journal Article Reviews

The purpose of these assignments is to familiarize you with refereed journals devoted to wilderness research and management. These assignments also assist in developing your skills to critically review what you have read and making connections with material you have learned in class.

Spelling & grammar

Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, and paragraph construction are important. Avoid sentence fragments by writing in complete sentences. Edit your paper for readability.

Format

Reviews are to be approximately two to three pages in length, double-spaced, with one-inch margins all around. The text should be word-processed in 11 or 12-point font. Do not use any folders or cover sheets. If you include additional references in your reviews, you should cite the references in APA format at the end of your review.

Contents

Use Headings to organize your writing and to facilitate the evaluation of your papers.

Begin writing on the same line as each heading, as follows:

Summary: Write no more than a one paragraph summary of the article, noting any significant findings. This segment should not be more than one-fourth of your total paper.

Context: Synthesize (compare and contrast) this work with the readings and/or with what we have covered in class.

Relevance & Applicability: How is the author's or authors' work relevant to wilderness and/or protected areas management? Can the results be applied? Where? How?

Critical Evaluation: A key element to your review is to answer the question, so what? What do you think? Don't just say you whether you liked it or not – tell me why, in your informed opinion, you think so. Share your logic with the reader. For example, did it help clarify your understanding? What was omitted that would be useful? Give examples of the paper's usefulness, or identify what would make it more useful. Identify major points. That is, why are the issues and themes important?

How to cite and reference in your Journal Article Reviews:

If you use a **direct quote** from the paper you are reviewing: "Blah, blah, blah" (Gomez-Pompa & Kaus, 1992, p. 272).

If you are not directly quoting, but you're using the author's (authors') ideas or closely paraphrasing:

Asking how much satisfaction is enough (Tynon, 1994, p. 7) further illustrates a lack of understanding of both the construct and the literature.

If you **reference** a **different source**: Tynon and Chavez (1999) examined management issues associated with National Recreation Trails (NRTs).

If you **quote** from a **different source**:

Tynon, Chavez, and Kakoyannis (2001) determined that “crime and violence are real concerns on western Forest Service lands and not merely the result of a few highly publicized incidents” (Tynon et al., 2001, p. 23).

1st Journal article review: The Meaning of Wilderness

Choose ONE:

Gomez-Pompa, A. & Kaus, A. (1992). Taming the wilderness myth. *BioScience* 42 (4): 271-279.

Brown, G. 2002. Alaska Wilderness: Is it Exceptional? *International Journal of Wilderness*. Volume 8(2):14-18.

2nd Journal article review: Protected Areas Outside the U.S.

Choose ONE:

Herath, G. (2002). The economics and politics of wilderness conservation in Australia. *Society and Natural Resources* 15 (2): 147-159.

Lynagh, F. M. & Urich, P. B. (2002). A critical review of buffer zone theory and practice: A Philippine case study. *Society and Natural Resources* 15 (2): 129-145.

3rd Journal article review – Wilderness Recreation Use;

Choose ONE:

Farrell, T., Hall, T. E. & White, D. D. (2001). Wilderness campers’ perception and evaluation of campsite impacts. *Journal of Leisure Research* 33 (3): 229-250.

Landres, P., Meyer, S., & Matthews, S. (2001). The Wilderness Act and fish stocking: An overview of legislation, judicial interpretation, and agency implementation. *Ecosystems* 4: 287-295.