

WLDL 150 Living With Wildlife Syllabus, Fall 2019

Instructor – Drs. Cady Sartini and Scott Hygnstrom

Class times – 4:00 - 4:50 pm, MT

Classroom – TNR 170

*Office hours – Sartini – TNR 186, 2-3pm M, 10am-12pm Th, or by appointment,
Cady.Sartini@uwsp.edu*

Hygnstrom – TNR 346, by appointment, Scott.Hygnstrom@uwsp.edu

TA – Joe Quehl, jqueh281@uwsp.edu

Important Dates: Last day to add/drop w/o a grade – Sept 12, Last day to drop with a “W” – Nov 8.

Student fees: \$35 to cover costs of transportation and program fees for one field trip per student.

Critical Resources - This is an online-intensive hybridized course that meets the UWSP General Education Requirements for both Environmental Responsibility and Social Sciences. Each week, before the Monday class you must access the module for that week on Canvas to view the online material, turn in the assignments, review the study guide questions, and take the on-line quiz.

Textbook - *A Sand County Almanac With Essays on Conservation from Round River* by Aldo Leopold. It's not available through text rental, but it's a cheap (\$8) and a great book, so....

Course Learning Outcomes - After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- 1) identify ecoregions and associated wildlife in Wisconsin and the associated social, cultural, and political forces relevant within each region;
- 2) recognize environmental and social science components of current human-wildlife issues in Wisconsin;
- 3) discuss a variety of contemporary national and international wildlife issues from ecological, cultural, historic, economic, and political perspectives; and
- 4) know how to get involved and potentially have an impact as a private citizen or resource professional.

Environmental Responsibility – Throughout this class we will be discussing how humans affect the environment around them and how the need to make sustainable decisions affects wildlife resources. After successfully completing this course as a part of the General Education program focusing on Environmental Responsibility, students will be able to:

- 1) identify interactions between human society and the natural environment;
- 2) analyze the individual, social, cultural, and ecological factors that influence environmental sustainability; and
- 3) evaluate competing claims that inform environmental debates.

Social Sciences – Throughout this class we will be focusing on how individual attitudes about wildlife are often shaped by political, social, and ethical forces that have nothing to do with the

wildlife itself. We will also spend time discussing how we use social science methods to understand why people feel the way they do about animals and how we use that information for management. After successfully completing this course as a part of the General Education program focusing on Social Sciences, students will be able to:

- 1) explain or apply major concepts, methods, or theories used in the social sciences to investigate, analyze, or predict human behavior; and
- 2) examine and explain how social, cultural, or political institutions influence individuals or groups.

Critical Thinking - This class is part of a campus-wide pilot program designed to develop critical thinking skills. After successfully completing this course as part of the pilot program, students will be able to:

- 1) Recognize critical thinking as a process of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and constructing reasons in deciding what conclusions to draw or actions to take
- 2) Identify reasoning as we apply it to specific issues related to how people value, impact, and are impacted by wildlife and wild places.
- 3) Analyze reasoning as we apply it to specific issues related to how people value, impact, and are impacted by wildlife and wild places.

Classes - Students will be primed on weekly topics through on-line assignments that will include a variety of prep materials including PowerPoints, topical readings or videos, study guide questions, and an online quiz that must be completed before class each Monday. Monday lectures will start with a discussion of current events in Wisconsin and beyond to increase awareness of contemporary wildlife issues. After 15 minutes, we will continue with the weekly topic, which in aggregate include: wildlife in our daily lives, wildlife and society, a land ethic, and human-wildlife conflicts. Topics regularly will integrate content on environmental responsibility and social science concepts, theory, and methodology. We will touch upon individual topics such as charismatic megafauna, backyard wildlife, Aldo Leopold, the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, Native American perceptions, land-use patterns, energy, climate change, predator-prey relationships, hunting and trapping, human dimensions, zoonotic diseases, invasive species, and biodiversity. Each will be discussed relative to a framework of ecological, cultural, historic, economic, and political perspectives.

Living with Wildlife Seminar Series - Some classes will occasionally feature a guest speaker from a natural resources agency or non-governmental organization who will address the weekly topic and illustrate concepts with key human-wildlife issues in Wisconsin. We have identified a few of these guest lectures as being of interest to the College of Natural Resources community as a whole. On these days, we will open our class up for other members of the CNR to join us in class that afternoon. **Attendance on these days is mandatory**, and all material from guest speakers is testable--no matter whether they are officially a part of our seminar series.

Autophotography - Students will create a collection of 10 photos and captions that answer the prompt “What wildlife means to me,” as an example of qualitative data collection. Students will then score photos turned in by others in the class and reflect on the use of autophotography as a technique. Details are available in Canvas.

Public Engagement - Students will prepare a personal position statement on a wildlife issue of their choice. The statement will be presented either as a post on Facebook or as a letter to a prominent decision-maker. Consider the primary audience and use appropriate language and arguments to support your position. Use various sources of environmental and social science research to support your perspective. Details are available in Canvas.

Field Trips - Two Saturday field trips will be available that explore some of the wildlife wonders of the state of Wisconsin (**Southeast** – Leopold Shack, Horicon National Wildlife Refuge; **Northwest** – National Eagle Center, Black River Falls). **Each student must participate in one field trip and submit a report** that includes a list of things learned and reflections on how this learning experience reflects on the Learning Objectives of this course. Field trip sign-ups will be announced the first week of class and will be available on a first-come-first-served basis.

Academic Dishonesty and Late Work Policy - Trust between students and the instructor is of paramount importance in academic settings. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in the classroom (e.g., cheating on exams) or in assignments (e.g., plagiarism). Academic dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent that University policy permits. **All late work will lose a full letter grade for every 24 hours submitted after the designated deadline up until 5 days late, after which assignments may be turned in for a maximum of 50% of the total points available.**

Student Assessment - Final grades will be assigned based on points accumulated from a combination of sources including:

Item	Number	Points	Percent	Percent	Letter
Weekly quizzes	15	75	17%	≥93	A
Assignments/ Miscellaneous				90-92	A-
Online discussions	3	30	7%	87-89	B+
Small assignments	4	40	9%	83-86	B
Personal Experience	1	25	6%	80-82	B-
Public Engagement	1	25	6%	77-79	C+
Field trip report	1	25	6%	73-76	C
Participation	n/a	30	7%	70-72	C-
Exams				67-69	D+
Mid-term	1	100	22%	64-66	D
Final	1	100	22%	≤63	F
Total		450	100%		

In the event of an emergency:

- 1) In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use red emergency phone located **in the lobby outside TNR 170**. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.
- 2) In the event of a tornado warning, **TNR 170** is an approved tornado shelter. See www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span rooms and buildings.
- 3) In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. **Meet in front of the mural on the TNR building**. Notify an instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.
- 4) In the event of an Active Shooter, run/escape, hide, fight. If trapped, hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Follow instructions of emergency responders.

See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Management Plan at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.

Tentative Schedule for WLDL 150 Living With Wildlife, Fall 2019

Final exam due 7pm on 19 Dec (exam period is 5-7 that day)

	Week	Specifics	Assignments	
Appreciating Wildlife and Wild Things	Environmental Responsibility and Social Sciences			
	1	Online	Welcome!	Quiz 1
		9/3	What's it to you? – <i>Sartini and Hygnstrom</i>	
	Attitudes Towards Animals			
	2	Online	Kellert typologies	Understanding attitudes; Quiz 2
		9/9	Values – <i>Sartini</i>	
		9/10	Turning values into actions – <i>Sartini</i>	
	Wildlife in Modern Society			
	3	Online	Nature deficit disorder	Leopold 1 initial post; Critical thinking quiz; Quiz 3;
		9/16	Social Media and Cecil - <i>Sartini</i>	
		9/17	Fireside chat – at Schmeckle Reserve	
	The History of Wildlife Conservation			
	4	Online	North American Model of Wildlife Conservation	Leopold 1 discussion completed; Autophotography photos; Quiz 4
9/23		Historical perspectives - <i>Hygnstrom</i>		
9/24		LWW Seminar Series: Trapping matters – Shawn Rossler, WI-DNR		
Human Uses of Wildlife	Nonconsumptive Uses of Wildlife			
	5	Online	Ethics of wildlife encounters	How to get involved; Quiz 5
		9/30	Bird watching, feeding, and \$\$\$ -- at Schmeckle Reserve	
		10/1	Wildlife viewing in Wisconsin – <i>Sartini</i>	
	Lions and Tigers and Bears			
	6	Online	Cost-benefits of African National Parks	Ecotourism initial post; Autophotography scoring; Quiz 6
		10/7	Ecotourism - <i>Sartini</i>	
10/8		The Big Five and more - <i>Hygnstrom</i>		

Human Impacts on Wildlife	7	Consumptive Uses of Wildlife		Ecotourism discussion completed; Quiz 7	
		Online	National Survey of Fishing Hunting and Wildlife		
		10/14	Hunter motivations - <i>Sartini</i>		
		10/15	LWW Seminar Series: Using public input for deer management in WI– Lesa Kardash, WI-DNR		
	<i>10/19 Field trip to Leopold Shack and Horicon NWR</i>				
	8	Cultural Interests		Midterm exam due 10/25; Quiz 8	
		Online	Traditional Ecological Knowledge/Creation Story		
		10/21	LWW Seminar Series: The Seasonal Round – <i>Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC</i>		
		10/22	Wildlife as a way of life – <i>Hygnstrom</i>		
	Human Impacts on Wildlife	9	Mechanics of Extinction		Endangered species profile; Autophotography reflection; Quiz 9
Online			“Evil Quartet” of extinction		
10/28			Endangered species legislation - <i>Sartini</i>		
		10/29	Whooping crane recovery – Ross McLean, UW-Stevens Point		
<i>11/2 Field trip to National Eagle Center and Black River Falls</i>					
10		Food, Water, Shelter, Space		Leopold 2 initial post; Quiz 10	
		Online	Wildlife habitat loss		
		11/4	Habitat management – <i>Sartini</i>		
		11/5	LWW Seminar Series: Working with the public – <i>Kent Van Horn, WI-DNR</i>		
11		Leopold for Today		Leopold 2 discussion completed; Quiz 11	
	Online	Green Fire			
	11/11	Land ethic – <i>TBD, Aldo Leopold Foundation</i>			
	11/12	Leopold for today – <i>Hygnstrom</i>			
12	Political Landscapes		Field trip report due; Quiz 12		
	Online	Public trust and politics			
	11/18	Climate change – <i>Sartini</i>			
	11/19	Public engagement how-tos			
Human Wildlife Conflicts	13	Living with Predators		Wolves assignment; Quiz 13;	
		Online	Wolves in Wisconsin		
		11/25	Fears, phobias, and attacks – <i>Sartini</i>		
		11/26	Bear smarts – <i>Sartini</i>		
	14	Dealing with Damage		Public engagement due; Quiz 14	
		Online	Wildlife stakeholder acceptance capacity		
		12/2	Resolving damage conflicts – <i>Hygnstrom</i>		
		12/3	LWW Seminar Series: Case studies in Wildlife Damage Management – <i>Scott Craven, UW-Madison*</i>		
	15	Animal and Human Health		Quiz 15	
		Online	White nose, chytrid, CWD		
12/9		Zoonotic diseases – <i>Shelli Dubay, UW-Stevens Point</i>			
	12/10	Fireside chat – <i>at Schmeckle Reserve</i>			

