

**Wildlife 450/650: Human Dimensions of Wildlife
Spring 2024**

Lecture	Tue	1:00-1:50 am—TNR 170
Discussion:	Section 001 Thur	9:00-10:50 am—TNR 354
	Section 002 Thur	4:00-5:50 pm—TNR 157

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Office hours: Weds 9-11 am (Zoom only; <https://wisconsin-edu.zoom.us/j/7153464546>)
Thur 2-3 pm (TNR 186)
By appointment

Course Description:

Management activities are choices made with alternative sets of consequences, rather than cookbook approaches to solving a problem. Making rational choices among competing preferences and consequences cannot be answered by applications of biological science alone. Science can inform choices we make as a society, but our choices ultimately involve expressions of values that people exercise through a wide range of behaviors. Thus managing wildlife resources “sustainably” requires an understanding of public attitudes and behaviors that have implications for wildlife, their habitats, and environmental quality. Ascertaining those attitudes and behaviors and integrating their implications into management decisions is the crux of “the human dimensions” of wildlife management. This course offers an overview in the application of social science in order to enhance wildlife management decisions.

Course Outcomes:

As a result of completing this course, participants will:

- (1) Develop awareness of current public attitudes regarding some contemporary wildlife management issues,
- (2) Distinguish between functions of science and functions of management,
- (3) Recognize applications of human dimensions methodologies,
- (4) Enhance their ability to read and think critically, and
- (5) Improve ability to express ideas orally and think on one’s feet.

Required Text:

- Navigating Environmental Attitudes. 2012. Thomas Heberlein. Oxford University Press. (Available as an e-book through the library)
- Human Dimensions of Wildlife Management. 2012. Ed. Daniel Decker, Shawn Riley, William Siemer. John Hopkins University Press. (Available through text rental)
- Additional articles, podcasts or videos will be provided on Canvas or in class as hand-outs.

Participation:

Because the field of human dimensions revolves around open communication between stakeholders, participation in this class is vital. Your participation grade will be a combination of my perception of your comments in class discussion, your own self-assessment of your participation, preparedness, completion of class assignments, and your attendance. I will give you a midterm participation grade halfway through the course to help you judge your performance and make any necessary changes.

I recognize for many of you that speaking your mind in class in front of others is intimidating and uncomfortable. However, being an effective natural resource professional

requires that you can communicate clearly, intelligently, and personably in front of groups. There is no better time and place to practice than now.

Laptops/phones:

Out of respect for those around you, please do not use laptops or phones in class, unless you have spoken with me beforehand.

Grading:

Evaluation:		Grades	
	<u>points</u>		
Participation	150	93% and above	A
Midterm	100	90-92%	A-
Final	100	87-89%	B+
U-PICK	100	83-86%	B
Research Highlight	50	80-82%	B-
		77-79%	C+
		73-76%	C
		70-72%	C-
		67-69%	D+
		64-66%	D
		62 and below	F
TOTAL	500		

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 research efforts (e.g., plagiarism). Academic dishonesty will be punished to the fullest extent that University policy permits. **All late work will lose a letter grade for every 24 hours after the designated deadline.**

In the event of an emergency:

In the event of a medical emergency, call 911 or use red emergency phone located **outside TNR TNR 170, 153, or 355.** Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.

In the event of a tornado warning, **the hallway in front of the elevator on the first or second floor of the TNR.** 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.

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.

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.

Spring 2024 – TENTATIVE Lecture & Discussion Schedule

WEEK	LECTURE		DISCUSSION	
1: Jan 22-26	Course intro		Class values	A: Introductions
2: Jan 29-Feb 2	Fundamentals Attitudes	R: Heberlein 1, 3-5; Decker 4	Typologies Attitude mapping	A: Kellert survey R: Letter to TWS attendees
3: Feb 5-9	Stakeholders SH engagement RH Topics due	R: Decker 3, 11	Public Trust Thinking	A: PTT prep R: Hare and Blossey 2014
4: Feb 12-16	Methods intro Qualitative U-Pick selection due	R: Decker 9-10	Survey questions— Ag damage by bears	A: TBD R: TBD
5: Feb 19-23	Research Highlights Session I		Research Highlights Session I	
6: Feb 26-Mar 1	Quantitative methods	R: Decker 10	Focus Group—Hogs	A: Prep sheet R: Varied, check Canvas
7: Mar 4-8	Consumptive and non-consumptive use		Focus Group— Regulated commercial harvest	A: Prep sheet R: Varied, check Canvas
8: Mar 11-15	Catch up Midterm Participation due		Midterm Exam	
Mar 18-22	Spring Break: Enjoy!!!			
9: Mar 25-29	Subsistence use		Nominal Group— Subsistence use	A: Walleye R: Varied, check Canvas
10: Apr 1-5	No lecture—Attend WCW Seminars		No discussion—Attend WCW Seminars	
11: Apr 8-12	Public input in Wisconsin U-Pick due for editing option		Updates and the importance of politics	
12: Apr 15-19	Research Highlights Session II		Research Highlights Session II	
13: Apr 22-26	Demographics	R: Decker 5	Public Trust revisited	A: Prep sheet R: Relevancy Roadmap, Varied
14: Apr 29-May 3	Economics Final U-Pick due	R: Decker 6	TBD- Something fun...	A: TBD R: TBD
15: May 6-10	Management Process Final participation due	R: Decker 7-8	Structured decision making	

Final Exam: Wednesday, 15 May, 10:15am-12:15pm (50% cumulative)