NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus.

FW 350: Endangered Species, Society and Sustainability
Section 400
3 Credit Hours
Prerequisites: FW 251

Course Syllabus
Instructor: Susan Piacenza
Mailing Address:
Dept. Fisheries & Wildlife
104 Nash Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331
Email: susan.hilber@oregonstate.edu

For more information, contact: BRUCE DUGGER, NASH 166, 541-737-2465

Course Catalog Description: FW 350. ENDANGERED SPECIES, SOCIETY AND SUSTAINABILITY (3).
Provides a general background to endangered species biology, and the social and economic implications of the legislation enacted to conserve endangered species (Endangered Species Act, CITES Treaty). (Bacc Core Course) PREREQS: FW 251

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes: Core, Synth, Sci/Tech/Soc

This course combines approximately 90 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 3 credits.

Instructor Course Description:
This course is designed to provide a general background to basic endangered species biology and ecology, as well as explore the social and economic implications of the legislation enacted to conserve endangered species.

Course Objectives:
By the end of FW 350 students will be able to:
- Identify threats to biological diversity and describe the biological and ecological characteristics of species that place them at risk.
- Evaluate the role of the Endangered Species Act in conservation of biological diversity and rare and threatened species.
- Demonstrate basic knowledge regarding the primary sections of the ESA and summarize how species are listed and de-listed and the recovery planning process.
• Synthesize the complex social, economic and political forces that must be considered and recognized when conserving endangered species.

**Students will achieve these outcomes through the assimilation and study of assigned reading and lecture material, writing assignments and extensive class discussion.**

**Baccalaureate Core:** Successful completion of this course partially fulfills OSU’s Baccalaureate Core course requirements in the Synthesis area under Science, Technology, and Society.

Students in this course will:
1. Analyze relationships among science, technology, and society using critical perspectives or examples from historical, political, or economic disciplines.
2. Analyze the role of science and technology in shaping diverse fields of study over time.
3. Articulate in writing a critical perspective on issues involving science, technology, and society using evidence as support.

The readings and discussion topics in this class are designed to promote an understanding of the complex interactions between science and technology, and the role these elements play in the conservation and management of threatened and endangered species within a societal context. Specific case histories are presented, with an emphasis on the interaction between the scientific information required for the legal designation and management of an endangered species, and the complex issues surrounding the societal perceptions of this scientific information.

**Text/Reading Material:**
2). Other selected readings - TBA
3). Current scientific literature that emphasizes the biology, ecology and management of endangered species - TBA

**NOTE:** For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the [OSU Bookstore website](http://www.oregonstate.edu). Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

**Assessment and Evaluation of Student Performance:**

**Basis for Assigning Grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Participation (10 pts/week)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>~14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve Design Presentation (20 pts)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>~6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two On-line Quizzes (35 pts each)</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>~19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam (100 pts):</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>~27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (125 pts):</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>~34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>365 pts</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

You are expected to spend a **minimum of 9 hours/week** on lecture material, readings, videos, class assignments, and participating in discussions. This represents approximately what you would spend for a class with three, one-hour lectures, including out-of-class preparation time.

**Discussions:**

Participation in this course via the Discussion Board is mandatory and part of your overall grade (14%). Participation is defined as posting to assigned discussions and completing assigned exercises. Each week you can earn a maximum of **10 pts/week** and you are graded on both timely participation and the quality of your posts.

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This course is offered through Oregon State University Extended Campus. For more information, contact:

**Web:** ecampus.oregonstate.edu  
**Email:** ecampus@oregonstate.edu  
**Telephone:** 800-667-1465
of your posts. To earn credit, your comments must be posted during the designated discussion week, which begins on Monday and runs through Sunday at midnight (late posts will not be graded). When discussion questions are assigned, you must post one original, starter thread, plus at least two comments to 2 different peers for a total of at least **3 posts** each week. Of course more is acceptable and encouraged.

### Grading Criteria for Discussions (10 points possible, except Weeks 9 & 10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Timeliness</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starter Thread</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reply #1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reply #2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participation**: Three points per week are awarded based on participation (generally 1 point per post up to 3 posts).

**Timeliness**: To earn 1pt for timeliness on your Starter thread it must be posted by 8AM PST on Thursday. To earn a single point for timeliness per Reply post, your replies must be posted on **different days than the Starter or other Reply**. This allows me to see that you are checking in to the Discussion Board intermittently during the week and you are posting early enough to enable classmates to reply. This also shows me that you are taking the time to digest what you’ve read and what your classmates have written, and to thoughtfully compose your own thoughts on class topics. It’s the exchange of ideas and information that is important here, so posting only on Sunday at the end of the week does not facilitate discussion.

**Quality**: You can earn 2 points for the quality of your Starter Thread and 1 point for the quality of each Reply (up to 2 replies). **Starter posts should not be less than 200 words**, but they can be longer. You are encouraged to include photos or links to web sites with information supporting your posts. Each starter post MUST include at least 1 citation, even if it is a website (if you are not familiar with citing your sources please see the Citations file later in this module for more information regarding citations).

The length of Reply posts to me or your classmates will vary depending on topic content, and context. However, low quality posts like “Hey I agree” or “Great point, thanks” are not appropriate and will be deducted for lack of quality. You can certainly respond to more than 2 posts (> 2 replies) and to some extent, effort can make up for quality. It is not uncommon for replies to include citations so be sure to provide them when and where it is appropriate, regardless of what type of discussion post it is.

Good grammar, spelling and clear, logical thinking are all considered when assigning grades for post quality. Please proofread (consider reading out loud) your posts for typos, correct word usage, proper sentence structure, etc. Posts with these errors, or text message style posts (lowercase i, abbreviations, acronyms, etc.) are not acceptable and will be graded appropriately. I recommend that you compose your posts in a word processor then cut and paste them into the Discussion board. See the sample starter post and reply in the Week 1 module to get an idea of what I’m expecting in regards to quality in the discussion posts.

Finally, please remember that all students have a valid viewpoint and valuable contribution to make to class. Some of the topics we will be discussing have the potential to be contentious and divisive, so please respond to each other’s and the instructor’s post with well-thought out, respectful comments.
**Reserve Design Presentation:** In Weeks 9 and 10, you will be required to prepare and complete a short multi-media presentation (e.g., PowerPoint, SlideRocket) regarding reserve design. Specifics of the assignment are provided in the Canvas Discussion forum, but the following are some important guidelines:

- You must claim a reserve via posting by Wednesday at midnight of Week 9.
- Your presentation must be posted by midnight on Sunday of Week 9.
- Points for Week 10 are based on 3 posts related to 3 of your classmate’s presentations made between Monday and Friday of Week 10, following a rubric similar to previous discussions (3 posts, separate days, 1st post by Wednesday).

**Grading Criteria for Presentation (20 points possible)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Timeliness</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st post</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd post</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd post</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 (20%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>4 (20%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>12 (60%)</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Quizzes:** There will be two quizzes associated with the lecture and reading materials in this class. Both quizzes are **closed book/notes** (see definition below in Course Policies), timed (60 minutes) and must be taken on-line through Canvas. These will cover reading, lecture, case histories, and discussion material. Quiz 1 covers weeks 1-3, while Quiz 2 covers weeks 3-8. Quizzes are worth **35 pts** each (~19% of total grade). The format will be true/false, matching, and short answer questions.

**Exams:** Examinations for both the midterm and the final will be **closed book/notes** (see definition below in Course Policies). The midterm contains 4 essay questions, and the final has 4 essay questions (you choose 4 to answer from a list of 5 questions) as well as definitions (set up as matching or short-answer questions). The essays questions will emphasize your ability to synthesize material learned in class. Exams are timed and must be taken through Canvas, but no proctor is required. Exam questions may come from on-line lectures and all text, reading, case history, or discussion materials assigned to the class. You will receive the exam on the date indicated in the class schedule and you will be informed when the exam is due. You will have 1.5 hours (90 minutes) to complete the midterm and 2 hours to complete the final, although you may not necessarily need all of the allotted time.

The midterm will be worth **100 pts** (~27% of total grade) and cover materials from the first 5 weeks of class. The final will be worth **125 pts** (~34% of total grade), with approximately 100 pts based on the second 5 weeks of class and an additional 25 points based on your cumulative knowledge gained over the entire 10 weeks of the class.

The midterm and the final also have 1 or 2 short answer extra credit questions you can answer if you have time at the end.

For any problems taking exams on-line, please see directions on the following web site:

[http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/services/blackboard/blackboard-test-help.htm](http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/services/blackboard/blackboard-test-help.htm)
Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-92.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92.5 - 90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89.9 - 87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>87.4 - 82.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>82.4 - 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>79.9 - 77.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77.4 - 72.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>72.4 - 70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>69.9 - 67.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67.5 - 62.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>62.4 - 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>≤ 59.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Communication with Instructor

Any and all questions you have regarding the course or course materials must be posted to the Discussion Board. Do not send messages directly to me unless the questions you have relate ONLY to you. If you send me messages that do not meet this criteria, I will ask you to post to the Discussion Board before you receive an answer. In addition, I expect all e-mails to include a “greeting” (i.e. Hi Peter) and some kind of closing that includes your name. Text message-type communications will not be answered and correct spelling, capitalization and punctuation in e-mail communications is also expected.

Course Policies

Incompletes:
Take this course only if you plan to finish it during this term. "I" or incomplete are only assigned with a strong and compelling case for doing so (e.g., serious health reasons, military commitment). The individual must complete over 50% of the course (e.g., all discussions, quizzes and exams through Week 6) before an incomplete will be considered.

Expectations for Student Conduct:
Student conduct is governed by the university’s policies, as explained in the Office of Student Conduct: information and regulations.

Academic Integrity:

Closed book/notes: For the purposes of FW350, this means that while taking the exam, you may not read or view your lecture notes, textbook, required readings, case histories, or any other class material; you may not use a sheet of personal notes; and you may not use any outside (non-classroom) sources such as searching the internet (Google, Wikipedia, etc.) to answer questions.

Honesty: Academic dishonesty is defined as: An act of deception in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic work. Students are expected to do their own work and only turn in work that is their own. Cutting and pasting from any source (including the internet), into any document, without acknowledging the source, is plagiarism and forbidden under Oregon State University’s conduct regulations. For further information, visit Avoiding Academic Dishonesty, or contact the office of Student Conduct and Mediation at 541-737-3656. The following link provides some very helpful information regarding plagiarism and how to avoid plagiarizing other’s work.

Any form of plagiarizing and/or cheating on a discussion, quiz, or exam can result in penalties that include failing the assignment or failing the class. Penalties are at the discretion of the instructor.

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities:
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.
- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION
Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.