

Syllabus for SMGT 325 Natural Resource Management

Course Description

Sustainability is one of the most significant shifts in thinking and action in the environmental and resource management arenas. *Natural Resource Management* emphasizes practical and sustainable solutions from a social, economic, and environmental perspective. In this course, you learn ecological principles, policies, and practices required for a sustainable future within four themes that focus on natural resources management and conservation:

- Unit 1 provides an introductory understanding of historical and current conservation, the economics and ethics regarding conservation practices, and ecology principles needed to make sound decisions.
- In Unit 2, you learn about soil and soil conservation, and apply this knowledge to rangeland management.
- In Unit 3, you focus on forest ecology, wildlife management, and species extinction.
- In Unit 4, you will dive into issues on water ecosystems and water quality. We will end the semester with talks on climate change issues that impact natural resources.

Course Learning Outcomes

Each lesson describes specific outcomes. Ultimately, students will learn how to use critical thinking skills to convey how society perceives what natural resource management is, how we actually manage or conserve our natural resources, how these activities impact our natural resources, how to improve on these applications, and how to network with pertinent organizations and individuals to collaborate on these ideas.

Course Materials

Information on course materials can be found in the [textbook section](#) of the SMGT website.

A variety of online readings and resources will be provided for each lesson.

Course Requirements

Discussions

Post topic-related and thought-provoking comments that foster interaction and discussion and demonstrate participation in the class as a whole and in each week's assigned readings.

Your grade will in part be based on your postings in response to other students' posts and will not be impacted by your personal opinion. However, I do expect the views that you present on this forum to reflect your own. And while not required to comment on all posts, I encourage you to read each other's posts.

You are welcome to expand in responses to posts, but your original post must focus solely on what the discussion asks for each week.

Be sure to post **on time**. Late posts will not be graded without prior approval.

Individual Assignments

These will be submitted to the Dropbox and will be graded by the instructor.

Exams

This course includes a total of 4 exams (90 questions on the first exam; 71 questions on the second; 79 questions on third; and 73 questions on the final).

Grading Policy

Make sure you respond to all components of each assignment. Not responding to all components will affect your grade. In addition to completeness, the quality of your work in each component will be evaluated. Very short answers, incomplete sentences, no sign of research done, and no individual review (your own critique based on your new knowledge) will result in a low score. Plagiarism will result in a zero. Late work will not be graded. Please have all your assignments in on time.

Extra credit: There is an optional extra credit assignment in the last unit. It is worth up to 50 points. Treat this assignment as you would any of the others in regards to quality of work and effort on your part.

The final grade in this course is made up of the following:

- Closed-book exams (4 exams total, equally weighted; 50% of final grade)
- Academic honesty quiz (5% of final grade)
- Assignments (equally weighted; 35% of final grade)
- Online discussions (equally weighted; 10% of final grade)

A	100-93%
A-	92-90%
B+	89-87%
B	86-83%
B-	82-80%
C+	79-77%
C	76-73%
C-	72-70%
D+	69-67%
D	66-63%
D-	62-60%
F	< 59 %