NRRT 605 Course Outline, Fall 2021
Human Dimensions of Natural Resources Theory
Department of Human Dimensions of Natural Resources
Warner College of Natural Resources
Colorado State University

*Syllabus subject to change at instructors' discretion.

**See the following for CSU COVID-19 information and requirements: https://covid.colostate.edu/

Dr. Tara Teel
Instructor
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491-7729
tara.teel@colostate.edu

Schedule: The class meets Thursdays 2:00-4:30pm in Room 113 of the Conservation House (222 West Laurel Street). Course ID#: 65589, Section 001, 3 credits.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this graduate-level course is to review social science concepts and research important to the management and conservation of natural resources. Through readings on social science theory and its application in a natural resources context, students will be exposed to current conservation issues and learn how those issues can be addressed through an understanding of human thought and behavior. Case studies will be presented and discussed in class in order to connect theoretical frameworks to on the ground management problems. The course will begin with an introduction to the human dimensions of natural resources field of study. This will be followed by an in-depth look at social psychology applications, and then by an examination of interdisciplinary approaches and contributions of other social science disciplines to conservation and natural resource-related topics.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course will review major concepts, theories, and disciplinary perspectives in human dimensions of natural resources. Through this course, students will:

- Understand the role and importance of human dimensions research in conservation and natural resource management
- Understand the role of theory in human dimensions research
- Become familiar with specific social science concepts and theories commonly applied in human dimensions
- Realize the varied contributions and approaches of different social science disciplines to the human dimensions field

In addition to providing students with information in these areas, an outcome of the course may be to spark ideas for thesis or dissertation research.
III. COURSE MATERIALS

Various readings will be assigned for course topics. These readings are noted on the syllabus and will be made available to you on Canvas prior to the class session in which they will be discussed. Other resources related to course content (e.g., lecture notes for certain modules, additional background materials) will also be made available on Canvas. Canvas log-in page: https://canvas.colostate.edu/.

IV. COURSE POLICY/PROCEDURE & ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

COVID Protocol
This course will adhere to CSU’s mandates for the COVID-19 pandemic. See the following website for more information: https://covid.colostate.edu/. In the event that COVID-related circumstances require me to shift this course to online delivery, I will notify you immediately via email and, if necessary, provide a Zoom/MS Teams link for class sessions.

Academic Integrity
This course will adhere to the CSU Academic Integrity Policy as found on the Student Responsibilities page of the CSU General Catalog and in the Student Conduct Code. At a minimum, violations will result in a grading penalty in this course and a report to the Office of the Student Resolution Center. See the following websites for more information: http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/policies/students-responsibilities/#academic-integrity
https://resolutioncenter.colostate.edu/student-conduct-code/

Student Accommodations
If you are a student who will need special accommodations in this class, please contact me to discuss your individual needs. Any accommodation must be discussed in a timely manner. A verifying memo from the CSU Student Disability Center may be required before any accommodation is provided: https://disabilitycenter.colostate.edu/.

Attendance and Participation
Prompt attendance of class sessions is a requirement for this course. You are expected to do the readings and come to class prepared for discussion. If you need to miss a class, please let me know in advance. It is your responsibility to communicate with me and/or fellow classmates regarding announcements and course content that were covered during a missed class.

Written Assignments
Written assignments completed outside of class must be typed and double-spaced and use American Psychological Association (APA, 7th Edition) style for formatting in-text citation of references and reference lists. I encourage you to take advantage of the University’s writing center for assistance with written assignments. Details can be found at https://writingcenter.colostate.edu/. Also see http://www.apastyle.org/ and https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/ for more details on APA formatting.
Late Assignments, Makeup Work, and Extra Credit
All assignments are due (submit through Canvas) no later than the beginning of class on the designated date. Late assignments will be de-valued at 5% per day, including weekends, and will be assigned a zero after five days. If at any time you are concerned about your grade in this course, you are encouraged to communicate with me as soon as possible. Do not wait until the end of the semester if you are having problems with the class or assignments. There will be no extra credit offered in this course.

CSU Library
For help with literature reviews and other related resources, you can contact the CSU Libraries Help Desk in person, by phone at (970) 491-1841, or online at: https://lib.colostate.edu/. For more in-depth help with your research, you may also want to contact our HDNR Department Liaison: Monica Latham: monica.latham@colostate.edu; https://libguides.colostate.edu/human-dimensions/home

Diversity and Inclusion / Classroom Climate
An important goal of mine is to foster and maintain an inclusive climate, wherein mutual respect is highly valued, and all students can feel comfortable sharing their views. It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength, and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students.

Mental Health and Wellness
CSU is a community that cares. If you are struggling, you are not alone. CSU Health Network Counseling Services has trained professionals who can help. Your student fees provide access to a wide range of services to support student mental health and wellbeing. Visit https://health.colostate.edu/mental-health-resources/ for more information.

Copyright
Please do not share material from this course in online, print, or other media. Course material is the property of the instructor. Materials authored by third parties and used in the course are also subject to copyright protections. Posting course materials on external sites or sharing materials with those not registered in the class may violate both copyright law and the CSU Student Conduct Code. Students who share course content without the instructor's express permission could face appropriate disciplinary or legal action.
V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADING

Grades will be based on performance on the following:

- **Thought/Reaction Papers:** At various times throughout the semester, students will be asked to write a brief (2-3 pages, double-spaced) paper to demonstrate thinking about course topics. Papers (total of 5) will be developed outside of class, and due dates are noted in the syllabus.

- **Class Participation/Discussion:** Students are expected to complete the assigned readings and participate in class discussions. Students will also be asked to select a topic area relevant to the course and lead an in-class session on that topic area. Student-led sessions are noted in the syllabus, and additional information about content and expectations for these sessions will be provided in class.

- **Final Paper:** Students will write a paper on a particular “theoretical or conceptual domain” relevant to the course and to their research pursuits. This paper will provide an extensive literature review on the domain of interest, demonstrating how it has been applied and why it is important to understand in a conservation/natural resource-related context. Papers must be between 10 and 20 double-spaced pages (not including reference lists) and contain a minimum of 20 references (beyond any listed on the syllabus). More specific guidelines for the final paper, due **December 13**, will be provided in class.

Points for specific assignments:

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<tr>
<th>Grading Summary</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation/Discussion</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thought/Reaction Papers (5 @ 6 points each)</td>
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<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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<td><strong>100% Total</strong></td>
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Grades will be based on the total points accumulated from requirements listed above. Instructor will use +/- Grading. Grades will be assigned as follows.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
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<td>A</td>
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VI. COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE*

*Note: The instructor reserves the right to change this schedule at any time during the semester. Changes to the schedule will be announced in class or communicated through email/Canvas.

SECTION I:
INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW OF HUMAN DIMENSIONS OF NATURAL RESOURCES

August 26th
- Course Introduction & Review Expectations for Class Assignments

September 2nd
- Human Dimensions of Natural Resources: An Introduction & Overview


Additional Background (Not Required):


September 9th

- Human Dimensions of Natural Resources: An Introduction & Overview (Cont’d)

See Readings for 9/2

SECTION II:

UNDERSTANDING HUMAN THOUGHT & BEHAVIOR – A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY APPROACH

September 16th

*DUE: THOUGHT PAPER 1 - The Human Dimensions of Natural Resources Field of Study

- Overview of a (Social) Psychology Approach in Conservation & Natural Resources; Introduction to Attitude/Behavior Theory


- **Attitudes**


**Additional Background (Not Required):**


**September 23rd**

- **Values**

  - **Case Study: “America’s Wildlife Values”**


Additional Background (Not Required):


September 30th

*DUE: FINAL PAPER & STUDENT-LED SESSION TOPICS*

*DUE: THOUGHT PAPER 2 – Lessons for Attitude-Behavior Change*

  o **Attitude/Behavior Change**


Additional Background (Not Required):


Crompton, T. (2010). Common cause: The case for working with our cultural values. Surrey, UK: WWF-UK. (also see http://valuesandframes.org/)

Conservation on a human scale: The RARE approach. (brochure materials posted, also see https://rare.org/)


October 7th
- Social Influence & Pro-Environmental Behavior (Guest Speaker: Dr. Rebecca Niemiec)


Additional Background (Not Required):


October 14th
*DUE: THOUGHT PAPER 3 – Biophilia
*MID-SEMESTER COURSE EVALUATION

- Emerging Themes & New Directions in Social Psychology Applications: A Brief Overview
- A Biological Basis for Human Behavior?


- Emotions


Additional Background (Not Required):


SECTION III:
MORE ON INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES & CONTRIBUTIONS OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL SCIENCE DISCIPLINES

October 21st
*DUE: FINAL PAPER “PROBLEM” STATEMENT & PURPOSE
*DUE: THOUGHT PAPER 4 – Children & Nature Movement

- More on the Contributions of Different Social Science Disciplines: A Brief Overview
- Connection to Nature & Human Well-Being: Role of Environmental Education


**Additional Background (Not Required):**


October 28th

- **Environmental Governance** (*Guest Speaker: Dr. Rebecca Gruby*)


- **Feminist Political Ecology & Indigenous Perspectives** (*Guest Speaker: Dr. Anna Lavoie*)


November 4th

*Due: Final Paper Outline*

- **Adaptation to Social-Ecological Change: A Case Study in Kenya** (*Guest Speaker: Dr. Brett Bruyere*)


- **Integrating Systems Perspectives: Social-Ecological Systems Science** (*Guest Speaker: Dr. Jonathan Salerno*)


**Additional Background (Not Required):**


November 11th

**DUE: THOUGHT PAPER 5 – 100 Questions Exercise**

- Tourism & Conservation *(Guest Speaker: Dr. Christina Cavaliere)*

Readings TBD
November 18th
  o *Student-Led Sessions*

Readings TBD

November 25th
  **FALL RECESS - NO CLASSES THIS WEEK**

December 2nd
  o *Student-Led Sessions*

Readings TBD

December 9th
  **FINAL COURSE EVALUATION**
    o Bringing It All Together: Course Wrap-Up & A Case Study Exercise Integrating Different Social Science Perspectives
    o New Directions in Conservation Social Science Research

Week of December 13th (FINAL EXAMS WEEK)
  **FINAL PAPER DUE MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 5:00 PM**