Lectures, support materials, assignments, quizzes and exams are found in UF eLearning (Canvas).

Discussion groups:
- WEC majors (Section 18255 - Group 1) – Tuesday, 11:45am – 12:35pm, 112 Newins-Ziegler Hall
- WEC majors (Section 18255 - Group 2) – Tuesday, 12:50pm – 1:40pm, 112 Newins-Ziegler Hall
- Non-WEC majors (Section 23739 - Group 3) - asynchronous section via Canvas
- Natural Resource Conservation majors in Milton, FL (Section 18235- Group 4) – Thursday, 12:50pm – 1:40pm via Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4895062272

Instructor: Dr. Bridget Baker
Office: 307A Newins-Ziegler Hall
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 2:00pm – 3:00pm, or by appointment; in person or via Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/4895062272
Email: bridgetbaker@ufl.edu

Dr. Baker’s Teaching Philosophy: As a lifelong learner, I am passionate about instilling a love for new information and connections in the students whom I teach and mentor, regardless of academic level and/or discipline. Excitement in teaching and learning is contagious, and nothing is more satisfying than seeing the ripple effects in the lives and careers of inspired students. I want every student to feel respected, safe, included, valued, and competent. I genuinely care about the education, growth, success, and goals of my students and mentees. I invest time in knowing each student, encouraging direct communication with me either online or in-person, and supporting students to pursue research and/or clinical experiences, internships, jobs, and further academic training.

Graduate Teaching Assistant: This is a graduate student who has been assigned to the course and is available to help administer the course (e.g., exam development, discussion groups, and grading) and help students as needed.

Teaching Assistant: Brandon McDonald
Office Hours: Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:00pm, or by appointment, via Zoom: https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96193435775
Email: mcdonald.brandon@ufl.edu

Course Description: Wildlife as a natural resource with emphasis on principles of conservation, ecology, and management.

Course Goal: To provide foundational knowledge about the principles of wildlife ecology and management that are necessary to think critically as a professional wildlife ecologist/manager and to solve wildlife conservation problems.

Course Objectives: The course has several primary objectives related to the course goal:

- Explain wildlife ecology and management terms and definitions.
- Identify historical and contemporary people, legislation, and events that have shaped wildlife ecology and management.
- Apply wildlife ecological concepts and/or management strategies at all levels of biological organization.
- Debate a range of positions related to the ethics and philosophy of wildlife management.
- Using peer-reviewed literature and other reputable sources, evaluate and communicate a variety of wildlife ecology and management principles, practices, and issues.

Class organization: Lectures and supporting materials will be available via UF eLearning (Canvas) every Wednesday in preparation for the following week’s quiz and discussion. Please see course components and detailed calendar below.

Required book:

- Sand County Almanac (SCA) Part I is entitled “A Sand County Almanac” and includes the “Foreword”, as well as “January” through “December”.
- SCA Part II is entitled “Sketches Here and There” and includes “Wisconsin” through “Manitoba”.

Evaluation: To assess how well we achieve the course goal and objectives, and allow you to demonstrate your knowledge and skills in the principles of wildlife ecology and management and their application in solving wildlife conservation problems, we have developed several evaluation instruments (i.e., discussions, quizzes, and exams).

Grading:
Quizzes*: 13 quizzes @ 15 pts each 195 pts
Discussions**: 12 discussions @ 20 pts each 240 pts
Q & A sessions^: 3 sessions @ 15 pts each 45 pts
Exams^^: 3 exams @ 130 pts each 390 pts
Final project† 130 pts
Total 1000 pts

*Quizzes: Quizzes are designed to reinforce the week’s lecture and supplementary material. Each quiz will be open for 48 hours from Sunday at 11:30am until Tuesday at 11:30am. There will be no make-up quizzes.

**Discussions: Topics will be provided each Wednesday in advance of the following week’s discussion. All students are expected to submit a written response by the following Tuesday at 11:30am (see grading information below). Discussion comments/ posts must be appropriate, pertinent to the discussion, and add content. Saying things like “hey” or “yes, I agree with this statement” will not count as engagement.

Discussion groups (see complete information at top)
Groups 1 and 2 are reserved for WEC majors and will meet in 112 Newins-Ziegler Hall.
Group 3 is reserved for non-WEC majors using the asynchronous discussion board in Canvas.
Group 4 is a synchronous Zoom session reserved for remote, Natural Resource Conservation majors in Milton, FL.

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<tr>
<th>Synchronous discussion section</th>
<th>Asynchronous discussion section</th>
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<tr>
<td>Requirement</td>
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<td>Submit a minimum 2 paragraph (~8 sentence) summary of your planned contribution for discussion with at least one reputable resource by Tuesday at 11:30am.</td>
<td>First submit, then post a minimum of 2 paragraph (~8 sentences) contribution to the discussion board with at least one reputable resource. Due by Tuesday at 11:30am.</td>
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Attendance & A sessions: During each module (see course calendar below), each student must submit one to three question(s) that would help clarify or improve your comprehension of the online lecture and supplementary material. These questions are due one week before each exam. The course instructor will compile and respond to the most common and relevant questions via a video posted in Canvas on the Tuesday preceding each exam. Some exam questions will come directly from the Q&A videos.

Exams: Exams cover lecture, discussion, supplementary material, Q&A videos, and A Sand County Almanac (SCA). Exam questions will be a combination of multiple-choice, matching, true/false, and short answer types. The first exam will include SCA Part I; the second exam will include SCA part II; the third exam will be cumulative, but exclude SCA. Exams are taken in Canvas. You may use your notes, but students must work alone. Exams open on Thursday at 11:30 am and close on Thursday at 11:30 pm. Each will be time-limited to 60 minutes. Questions will be randomly drawn from multiple question pools. If you do not complete an exam during the assigned period, you will receive a grade of zero for that exam. Make-up exams will only be given if you have an approved absence (i.e., arranged before the absence and with a note from a medical doctor or an appropriate University official). Please note that an absence is not excused unless it encompasses the entire time the exam was available.

Final project: The final project is based on the concept of the 3-minute thesis, with the goal of inspiring creativity with science communication. Students must choose a topic of interest from material taught in WIS 3401, then find related research associated with a real-world example using reputable resources. Each student will make a 1- to 3-minute video, podcast, or recorded PowerPoint presentation that makes the topic easily understood by a general audience, while covering the content effectively and creatively. Students must submit a proposal that includes the topic and a paragraph summary of the project plan. The proposal will be worth 30 points of the final project grade. Proposals can be submitted during the month of March. Students who do not submit a proposal by March 31st, will receive zero points on the entire final project. The final project will take the place of a final exam and will be due on the final day of the semester.

Grades and Grade Points: Grades will be posted on Canvas. Students will have two weeks after the posting of a quiz, discussion, Q&A, or exam grade to request a review of the grade. Failure to request a review within this period indicates a willingness to accept the assigned grade. Exams can be reviewed during the course instructor’s Office Hours or by appointment (in person or via Zoom). For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points (i.e. the final grade), see https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx (Links to an external site.).

Attendance and Make-up Work: Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are described below, and are consistent with university policies that can be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx (Links to an external site.).

Elearning: Canvas is the platform/software at https://elearning.ufl.edu/ (Links to an external site.) containing the course website, testing location, and includes all course information, materials, and scheduling. Students are responsible for using a reliable and fast computer and Internet connection while completing quizzes and exams. Completing the Practice Exam will allow you to assess your computer and internet connections. Working on campus computers and networks may be helpful. Unless Canvas or the UF network are slowed or not working, slow or lost connections and computers that “die” are not acceptable reasons for incomplete, unfinished, or missing quiz questions, discussion posts, or exams.

Canvas Technology Requirements: Computers, Internet, and Web browsers: Canvas runs on Windows, Mac, Linux, iOS, Android, or any other device with a modern web browser. It is recommended to use a computer less than five years old with at least 1GB of RAM. It is recommended to have a minimum Internet speed of 512kbps. It is strongly recommended to not use a phone, tablet, or notepad for critical course tasks such as exams and discussions.
Canvas currently supports the following browsers: Chrome, Safari, Firefox, Edge. Canvas supports the last two versions of most browsers. It is highly recommended to update to the newest version of whatever browser you are using.

For more information on approved computers and browsers please visit: Canvas Basics Guide browser and computer requirements. On this web page, there is an area titled “Is My Browser up to Date?”. Use it to check each computer and browser you may use in this course. Under “Browser Privacy Settings”, read the section(s) for any browser intended for use. Note that your computer’s operating system may affect browser function. Failure to use one of these browsers will cause problems. For example, in browsers such as Safari, insecure content will never be displayed. Return to the page to check for updates on technology issues in Canvas.

If you encounter technical difficulties in this course, contact the UF Computing Help Desk right away to troubleshoot. https://helpdesk.ufl.edu/ or (352) 392-HELP. If the problem cannot be fixed immediately, notify your instructor, and provide them with the Help Desk ticket number.

Online Course Evaluation Process: Student assessment of instruction is an important part of efforts to improve teaching and learning. At the end of the semester, students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course using a standard set of university and college criteria. Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/.

Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/.

Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at: https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Academic Honesty: As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sscr/process/student-conduct-honor-code.

Software Use: All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Services for Students with Disabilities: The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation 0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, https://disability.ufl.edu/

Campus Helping Resources: Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general wellbeing are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides
confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for
students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic
performance.

• University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, www.counseling.ufl.edu
  Counseling Services
  Groups and Workshops
  Outreach and Consultation
  Self-Help Library
  Wellness Coaching

• U Matter We Care, www.umatter.ufl.edu/

• Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, https://career.ufl.edu/.


Student Complaints:
• Residential Course: https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-studentconduct-code/.
• Online Course: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Quiz due dates</th>
<th>Discussion posts due</th>
<th>Q&amp;A due dates</th>
<th>Other due dates</th>
<th>Exam dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/5-13</td>
<td>Welcome to WIS 3401</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/12-20</td>
<td>Introduction to ecology</td>
<td>Jan 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Jan 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/19-27</td>
<td>History and regulations</td>
<td>Jan 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Jan 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>1/26-2/3</td>
<td>Evolutionary and physiological ecology</td>
<td>Feb 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Feb 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Feb 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Feb 10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/2-10</td>
<td>Behavior and habitat use</td>
<td>Feb 8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>2/9-17</td>
<td>Population abundance and distribution</td>
<td>Feb 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>2/16-24</td>
<td>Population growth and regulation</td>
<td>Feb 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>2/23-3/3</td>
<td>Species interactions</td>
<td>Mar 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Mar 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Mar 3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>3/7-11</td>
<td>Spring break</td>
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<td>3/9-17</td>
<td>Species diversity</td>
<td>Mar 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Mar 17&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>3/16-24</td>
<td>Succession and island biogeography</td>
<td>Mar 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>3/23-31</td>
<td>Human impacts and global change</td>
<td>Mar 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Final project proposal</td>
<td>Mar 31&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>3/30-4/7</td>
<td>Human impacts and global change</td>
<td>Apr 5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Apr 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Apr 14&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/6-14</td>
<td>Conservation case studies</td>
<td>Apr 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/13-20</td>
<td>Final projects and course evaluation</td>
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<td>Apr 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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Note: The course instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule as necessary.