Course Information

Instructor:
Name: Michael Schindlinger, PhD
Phone: 646-289-2336
E-Mail: michael.schindlinger@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Office: Harder South room 1037
Hours: W 2:00 – 3:15 (and by appointment)

Classroom: Phelps 3519
MW 3:30-4:45

Webpage: Check under “my courses” on the gauchospace website. Readings, schedules, resources, handouts, and current announcements can be found there. Do so often!

Texts:
Peter Alagona, After the Grizzly: Endangered Species and the Politics of Place in California UC Press, 2013

Additional topical weekly readings will be posted to GauchoSpace. Students should check the course’s website frequently for updates, assignments, and links and content of interest.

Course Objectives:
Students will use a multidisciplinary approach to issues of species conservation, and to identify and address the challenges of endangered species management. Students will hone their research and writing skills through weekly posts, and by preparing a case study for their final project. We will also learn about specific projects from experts in their fields: from conservation law, to species surveys and population monitoring, to implementation of management plans.

Course writing requirement:
ENVS 143 satisfies UCSB’s Writing Requirement, and is therefore required to meet certain writing criteria outlined by the College of Letters and Science. The UCSB Writing Requirement Criteria are: 1) One to three papers totaling at least 1,800 words, exclusive of elements like footnotes, equations, tables of contents, or references; 2) The required papers are independent of or in addition to written examinations; and 3) The paper(s) are a significant consideration in the assessment of student performance in the course.
Grading

Attendance (10%)
We will have sign-in sheets at each class.

Midterms (20%):
There will be two midterms: Monday, February 8 and Monday, March 8. The second midterm will cover material not covered by the first exam. Each midterm is worth 10% of your grade for the course. These in-class exams will be based on short answer (fill-in-the-blank, multiple choice) and essay questions from material covered during the course and will focus on synthesis of course concepts and guest lectures.

Guest Lecture Summaries (10%):
Summaries of guest lectures are due at the end of the day on the Monday following the previous week’s lecture. These summaries should be no more than one typed page (single spaced) per lecture. Summaries should be submitted through GauchoSpace.

Weekly Reading Responses (20%)
In most weeks students will post directed responses to the reading material. Normally this includes a summary of major points and highlights, and may also include student-directed research. Check the course website weekly for precise details.

Special Status Species Case Study Paper (DUE Monday March 3 online) (35%): A major assignment for this course is preparation of a research paper of no more than 20 pages on a single species of plant or animal which is either federally or state (California) listed as rare, threatened, or endangered; additionally you might chose a non-US species provided that it is listed by the IUCN as threatened or endangered. A description of the assignment, plus an outline and style guide, are provided online. Your case study paper topic is due online Monday, January 18. Topics should be submitted via the assignment on GauchoSpace. To facilitate your research, the Environmental Sciences Librarian will provide a reference tutorial in class on January 27 during class time. Attendance at this tutorial is required, and will be an opportunity for you to start your research on your species early in the quarter, which is strongly encouraged.

Final Species Presentation (5%): Students will give a five-minute summary of their findings from their species case study to the class during week 10 and finals week. Presentations will be timed and graded on presentation, organization, ability to engage your audience, and succinctness. Power Point presentations are not required; however, visual elements (pdf, keynote, prezi, etc.) are encouraged. Attendance at all student presentations is required, even if you have finished with yours. Student evaluation sheets will be handed out so that you can receive anonymous feedback from your peers on your presentation.
Summary of grading breakdown:
- Attendance: 10%
- Two Midterms: 20%
- Guest Lecture Summaries: 10%
- Weekly Reading Responses: 20%
- Special Status Species Case Study Paper: 35%
- Final Species Presentation: 5%

Course Outline
Subject to change; see website for current schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/4</td>
<td>Introduction and overview; Biodiversity, Rarity, and Extinction 1</td>
<td>Wilson, Prologue, Ch. 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>Special Focus: Parrots</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1/6</td>
<td>Biodiversity, Rarity, and Extinction 2 Global biodiversity: Pattern and process; Biogeography</td>
<td>Wilson, Ch. 3 Gauchospace reading: McKinney 1997</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1/11</td>
<td>Human Impacts: overview</td>
<td>Wilson, Ch. 4 GauchosSpace readings:</td>
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<td>Pimm et al. 2006</td>
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<td>1/13</td>
<td>Conservation Biology: overview</td>
<td>Wilson, Ch. 5</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>1/18 – MLK day</td>
<td>No class</td>
<td>GauchosSpace reading:</td>
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<td>Research topics due online</td>
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<td>WPT Parrot Action Plan Ch. 2</td>
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<td>1/20</td>
<td>Dr. Charles Chester: International Conservation Law</td>
<td>Wilson, Ch. 6 Roman, Ch. 1 &amp; 6</td>
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<td>1/25</td>
<td>Coal Oil Point Conservation (meet at COP)</td>
<td>GauchosSpace reading: Western Snowy Recovery Plan</td>
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| 4 | 1/27    | Research Tutorial Guest | Kristin LaBonte (Davidson Library)  
*Please bring laptop & USB/thumb drive if you have them. Laptops available at library for loan for up to 4 hours*  
Roman, Ch. 4 & 5  
*GauchoSpace reading: posted* |
| 5 | 2/1     | The role of NGOs in species conservation | Wilson, Ch. 7  
*GauchoSpace reading: Wright et al., 2001* |
| 5 | 2/3     | TBA | Roman, Ch. 6  
*GauchoSpace reading: Rothstein and Peer, 2005* |
| 6 | 2/8     | Midterm 1 | | |
| 6 | 2/10    | Wild Bird Conservation Act; Marine Mammal Preservation Act | Roman, Ch. 7-9  
*GauchoSpace Reading: excerpts as posted* |
| 7 | 2/15 – Pres. Day | no class | Alagona, Ch. 4, 7 |
| 7 | 2/17    | Novel approaches to ecosystem management; wildlife tracking technology | Roman, Ch. 13-16  
*GauchoSpace reading: Simberloff, 1997* |
| 8 | 2/22    | Guest lecture | ESA in practice: examples  
Roman, Ch. 2 & 3  
*Alagona, Ch. 5* |
| 8 | 2/24    | Guest lecture | Peter Taylor: Black Caiman conservation  
Matt Hallet: Camera trap surveys, Jaguars, and rare mammals  
*GauchoSpace Readings: TBD* |
| 9 | 3/1     | Case Study Paper Due | Peter Alagona  
*Roman, Ch. 17 – Epilogue*  
*GauchoSpace readings: Suckling et al. 2012*  
*Gibbs and Currie, 2012* |
| 9 | 3/3     | Guest lecture | Condors – Estelle Sandhaus  
*Director of conservation and research, sbzoo conservation@sbzoo.org*  
*GauchoSpace readings: TBD* |
### About the Instructor:

Michael Schindlinger is an assistant research scientist at the Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration at UCSB. He received his PhD in Biology from Harvard in 2009, and served on the Faculty of Lesley College (Cambridge, MA) as Assistant Professor of Biology. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Foster Parrots / New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary. He has served as President of the New England Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology. He is also a former Fulbright scholar to Mexico, where he studied wild parrots, and filmed the documentary “Stalking the Wild Amazons.” He currently is developing a travel-abroad study program to the Neotropics (Guyana) as part of a parrot conservation plan employing eco- and edu-tourism; and is working to develop an acoustic avian monitoring system at UCSB.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Midterm 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/10</td>
<td>Final presentations part 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Final presentations part 2</td>
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