

Land & Protected Area Management

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Dan Paleczny
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OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

COURSE OFFERING

DAYS & TIMES: Thursdays, 6:00 – 9:00pm; Room A2712

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students to the concepts, principles and practices of planning and managing protected areas at a global, national, sub-national and local scale. Students will gain an appreciation of the challenges and opportunities of protected area planning and management through lectures, discussion and a rich body of case studies. Students will develop practical skills through assignments that reflect the expectations of the work place.

Part 1: Managing a Protected Area

This part of the course introduces the many considerations that go into managing a protected area. It begins in a place that we know – ourselves and how we use protected areas. The innumerable challenges associated with managing people and ecosystems are examined through approaches to planning and management, such as: developing management plans; implementing plans; determining operational needs for park facilities, staffing and budgets; carrying out collaborative approaches, education and interpretive programs; and, evaluating the effectiveness of efforts.

Part 2: Protected Area Systems and Global Perspectives

With an appreciation of the site-level needs associated with protected area planning and management, this part of the course scales up and broadens our understanding of protected areas to the system level (e.g., territorial, national, international). The range of topics examined, include: the historical origins of protected areas; the role of Aboriginal peoples in Yukon and

abroad; concepts related to modern day land use planning and alternative mechanisms; how protected area boundaries and systems are designed to account for emerging challenges like climate change; how protected areas are valued in an economic sense and the role of ecotourism; and, consideration of the challenges ahead.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. understand the reasons for protecting natural and cultural landscapes and establishing protected places,
2. describe the evolving role of protected area systems in the Yukon, Canada and the world,
3. appreciate how different cultures view protected areas, and what role First Nations and the Final Agreements play in protected places,
4. apply basic principles and practices of applied conservation biology to protected area selection, design and management,
5. understand the issues in designating, planning and managing new protected areas in the Yukon,
6. understand how Final Agreements, legislation, regulations and policies relate to land use planning, the establishment of protected areas and the achievement of conservation objectives,
7. understand the issues and basic principles of managing human use in protected areas,
8. convey ideas and opinions with presentations and writings, work collaboratively with students, think critically, and improve research and analytical skills.

DELIVERY METHODS/FORMAT:

The course is composed of one class per week that will include an instructional (lecture) component and a practical, hands-on work session (lab).

Dr. Paleczny is the main course instructor. Guests may be engaged to draw upon specific expertise and/or case studies. For example:

- Lawrence Joe, Director of Policy, Champagne and Ashiak First Nation, an expert negotiator of Final Agreements and park planning.
- Jake Paleczny, Director of Programming and Education, Yukon Wildlife Preserve, is an experienced park interpreter with academic expertise in the area of museum design and operation, and the delivery of educational programs.
- Erik Val, retired Yukon Parks Director has experience and knowledge related to economic valuation of protected areas in Yukon and across Canada.
- Staff from Environment Yukon (Jean Langlois, Planning Manager, Yukon Parks; Bruce

McLean, Sr Coordinator, Fish & Wildlife Branch) and Parks Canada may be called upon to participate in the presentation and discussion of local case studies.

- Opportunities to engage specialists from other jurisdictions and academic institutes by skype or video conference will be considered.

Field trips may include (subject to confirmation and scheduling):

- Yukon Planning Projects: This may involve attending a public meeting with Yukon Government and First Nation planning participants (e.g., Kusawa Park planning).
- Peel Watershed Regional Land Use Plan: Yukon government is currently appealing the Yukon Supreme Court decision on the land use planning process. Opportunities may be available to observe and/or study certain aspects of this legal process, in addition to studying the overall planning process (over the last 8-10 years).
- Kluane National Park Visitor Centre, to experience a new centre and understand the considerations that went into its design, view the new park video, discuss interpretive programming and gain an appreciation of the efforts toward renewing the relationship with Champagne and Aishiak First Nations and Kluane First Nation.

Students will be expected to read a variety of literature as a means to gain familiarity with the array of concepts and practical approaches to planning and managing protected areas throughout the world. By examining situations in other countries and approaches developed by other governments and NGOs, students can contextualize the Canadian and Yukon approaches.

PREREQUISITES:

Admission to second year of the Renewable Resource Management Program or permission of the instructor is required. Students in the University of Alberta Conservation Science degree program may attend. Enriched learning opportunities can be accommodated.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS/EVALUATION:

Course Website

Lectures will normally be posted on MyYC after the weekly class. Assignments and readings will also be posted on the website.

Evaluation

Course evaluation will be based on: attendance and participation (10%); mid-term test (20%); major term assignment (50%); final examination (20%).

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late submissions will be deducted 10% for each day late. They are to be submitted in Word format, using MyYC or directly by email to the instructor. Comments will be returned electronically. This approach is intended to save paper and ink.

Attendance and Participation (10%)

Attendance at the weekly lecture and scheduled field trips is mandatory. Grading is based on participation in discussions.

Reading Assignments

Familiarity with the body of knowledge on protected area planning and management requires a considerable amount of reading for professionals working in this multi-disciplinary field. Through the course readings, students will be exposed to the array of topics, concepts and practical approaches used in the planning and management of protected areas.

The course materials provide a thorough treatment of protected area planning and management topics. Students are expected to read the assigned materials prior to the weekly lecture. Grading of comprehension is based on in-class participation and the exams.

Major Term Assignment (50%)

There will be one major assignment, with six components that are each graded. This assignment is described in detail on MyYC.

Exams (40%)

There will be a mid-term exam (20%) and final exam (20%). Exam questions may be drawn from course readings, lectures and field trips.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student

requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS:

Mandatory:

A textbook for purchase is not mandatory. Mandatory reading materials will be available on MyYC.

Optional: (a variety of readings from this textbook are recommended to enrich students' understanding; specific chapters and sections to complement the modules will be identified to students)

Dearden, Philip and Rick Rollins, eds. 2009. **Parks and Protected Areas in Canada: Planning and Management in Canada.** Oxford University Press Canada, Third Edition. [This textbook is available at the bookstore and in the library.]

Yolanda F, Thomas J. Beechey, Bas M. Oosenbrug and John C. Meikle. 2005. **Protected Areas in Northern Canada: Designing for Ecological Integrity.** Phase 1 Report. CCEA Occasional Paper No. 16. Canadian Council on Ecological Areas, CCEA Secretariat, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. [This publication is available at the bookstore, on reserve, and online.]

Other reading materials will be handed out in class or provided on the course website.

EQUIVALENCY/TRANSFERABILITY:

UNBC RRT 406 (3)

INSTRUCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Dr. Dan Paleczny (PhD) is a specialist in protected area planning and management. He is currently Director of Policy, Planning and Aboriginal Relations at Environment Yukon. Previously, Dan worked with Yukon Parks as Manager of Park Planning, and prior to that with Ontario Parks for several decades in various park, regional and main office roles related to park interpretation, management planning, environmental assessment, strategic planning and policy development. He spent three years working for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Egypt managing Wadi el Rayan Protected Area and developing the Valley of the Whales World Heritage Site eco-tourism project. He also designed a site level management effectiveness evaluation approach for Egypt National Parks. Earlier, Dan spent three years working in Zimbabwe on natural resources management initiatives sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency. He is a member of the World Commission on Protected Areas and the Commission on Ecosystem Management, and is a participant in the Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Group. Dan has an Honours BSc (Physical Geography) from University of Guelph, a post-graduate diploma (Protected Landscape Management) from the International Centre for Protected Landscapes, Wales, and a PhD from University of Greenwich, UK. His doctoral dissertation focused on

protected area assessment and reporting. He attended the decadal IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban in 2003 and in Sydney in 2014.

TOPIC OUTLINE/SYLLABUS

The following chart provides a summary of the 13 modules in the course. A detailed description of each module and corresponding practical activities and readings will be available on MyYC.

Land and Protected Area Management Course Outline

Module	Date	Topic
1	Jan 8	Course Introduction Context for Protected Areas
Part I: Managing a Protected Area		
2	Jan 15	Protected Area Stakeholders, Users and Levels of Use
3	Jan 22	Management Plans
4	Jan 29	Implementing Protected Area Plans and Programs
5	Feb 5	Managing Historical and Cultural Resources in Protected Areas Western Science and Traditional Knowledge
6	Feb 12	Monitoring, Research & Evaluating Effectiveness, Environmental Reporting
7	Feb 19	Raising Awareness: Environmental Education, Information and Interpretation (Jake Paleczny)
Part II: Protected Area Systems and Global Perspectives		
8	Feb 26	Mid-term Exam on Part I Overview of Part II Eco-tourism Planning and Development
9	Mar 5	Designing Protected Area Sites and Systems
10	Mar 12	Partnership, Stewardship and Collaborative Management
	Mar 19	No class – reading week
11	Mar 26	Protected Areas as an Economic Development Tool (Erik Val) Workshop on Draft Report
12	Apr 2	Student Presentations of Major Term Assignments
13	Apr 9	Challenges for the Future Wrap up on Course & Exam Preparation
	tbd	Exam (between April 12-24)