**School of Science**

# RRMT 236
# Land and Protected Area Management

**Winter 2023**

**3 credits**

## Course Outline

**INSTRUCTOR:** Ryan C. van der Marel
**E-MAIL:** rvandermarel@yukonu.ca
**PHONE:** (867) 456-6957
**OFFICE LOCATION:** A2806
**OFFICE HOURS:** By appointment
**CLASSROOM:** A2103
**DATES:** Tues/Thus 10:30am – 12:00 pm

### 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 examine a rich body of case studies and develop practical skills through assignments that reflect the expectations of the workplace. Topics include: developing and implementing management plans; determining operational needs for park facilities, staffing and budgets; carrying out collaborative approaches, education and interpretive programs; evaluating effectiveness; the historical origins of protected areas and role of Aboriginal peoples; land use planning and alternative land management mechanisms; designing protected area boundaries and systems to account for emerging challenges like climate change; economic value of protected areas and the role of ecotourism; and, consideration of the challenges ahead. Prerequisite: Admission to second year of the Renewable Resources Management Program.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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.

### EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at:
https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

1. explain 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. know how different cultures view protected areas, and the role First Nations play in protected places,
4. analyze and explain the issues in designating, planning and managing new protected areas in the Yukon,

5. explain how Final Agreements, legislation, regulations and policies relate to land use planning, the establishment of protected areas and the achievement of conservation objectives,

6. analyze the issues and explain the basic principles of managing human use in protected areas.

**COURSE FORMAT**

**Weekly breakdown of instructional hours**

The course will include 3 hours of lecture per week, with assigned readings, lectures, discussions, examinations, and written assignments. There will also be guest speakers that may be scheduled outside of class time. Students should expect to spend about 4 hours outside of class time on assignments, studying, or listening to guest speakers.

Students will be expected to read a variety of literature 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.

Course Website: Lectures will be posted on the course Moodle site after the class. Assignments and readings will also be posted on the website.

**Delivery format**

Lectures will be present in a face-to-face format, however, they may also be attended remotely upon request.

**EVALUATION**

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|---|---|
| **Participation** (based on participation in class, including attendance and questions to invited speakers) | 15% |
| **Assignments** Five Assignments, worth 10% each | 50% |
| Mid-term | 15% |
| Final exam | 20% |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** |

Opportunities to make-up work or testing events that have been missed as a result of excused absences will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Missed work that results from unexcused absences cannot be made up.

**Participation**

Students are expected to participate in the in-class and online discussions in order to receive full-value from the information provided in the readings and lecture.

**COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION**

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates.

**TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS**

There are no textbooks required for this course. However, several free textbooks and other materials are required, as provided for on Moodle. The following course textbook is available online and will be on reserve at the library and can be used as a key source for readings and written assignments:

Dearden, Philip and Rick Rollins, eds. 2016. Parks and Protected Areas in Canada: Planning and Management in Canada. Oxford University Press Canada, Fourth Edition.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

## ACCESSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Yukon University is committed to providing a positive, supportive, and barrier-free academic environment for all its students. Students experiencing barriers to full participation due to a visible or hidden disability (including hearing, vision, mobility, learning disability, mental health, chronic or temporary medical condition), should contact Accessibility Services for resources or to arrange academic accommodations: access@yukonu.ca.

**TOPIC OUTLINE and Important Dates**

| Date | Topic or event (order may vary based on guest speaker availability) |
|---|---|
| **Jan. 5** | First day of classes for most full-time programs<br>Opening circle, introduction to the course and history of protected areas management |
| Jan. 10 | Contemporary protected area management |
| Jan. 12 | Assignment #1 due<br>Yukon parks and protected areas |
| Jan. 17 | Indigenous peoples and protected areas |
| Jan. 19 | Designation and strategic planning |
| Jan. 24 | Assignment #2 due<br>Conservation values |
| Jan. 26 | Cultural and heritage values |
| Jan. 31 | Managing human activities in parks |
| Feb. 2 | Public participation and engagement |
| Feb. 7 | Assignment #3 due<br>Management tools |
| **Feb. 14** | Midterm Exam |

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|---|---|
| **Feb. 20 – 25** | *Reading Week – no classes* |
| Mar. 2 | Plan implementation |
| Mar. 7 | Human resources |
| Mar. 9 | Monitoring and science |
| Mar. 14 | Facilities and infrastructure |
| Mar. 16 | Enforcement and education |
| Mar. 21 | Assignment #4 due<br>Remote area considerations |
| Mar. 23 | Restoration and enhancement |
| Mar. 28 | Conservation and economics |
| Mar. 30 | Alternatives to conventional strategies |
| **Apr 11** | Assignment #5 due<br>Last day of classes |
| **Final Exam** | *April 20, 2023* 1:00 – 4:00 pm |