Northern Marianas College CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Course: NR253 Species and Ecosystem Management

Effective Semester / Session: FALL 2025

Type of Action:

- _ New
- X Modification
- ____ Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- ___ Cancellation

Course Alpha and Number: NR253 (Previously BI253)

Course Title: Species and Ecosystem Management

Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:

This course guide is being modified to reflect changes to SLOs, the textbook edition, course catalog description, the contact hours, course outline, and course outcomes.

Kelsey McClellan	May 15, 2025
Proposer	Date
د Velma C. Deleon Guerrero	May 15, 2025
Academic Unit Head	Date
Adam Walsh	05.15.25
Language & Format Review Specialist	Date
Yunzi Zhang	May 15, 2025
Academic Council Chair	Date
Lorraine C. Maui	May 16, 2025
Interim Dean of Academic Programs & Services	Date

Course: NR253 Species and Ecosystem Management

1. Department

Natural Resource Management

2. Purpose

NR 253 is the third core course in the Natural Resource Management, Associate in Science degree. Natural Resource Management is an interdisciplinary program that emphasizes a theoretical and applied approach to agricultural, environmental, and natural resource production, assessment, classification, problem or phenomena mitigation, policy, and related conservation issues. This degree provides academic training and on-the-job experience with a student focus on utilization, conservation, and protection of our land, sea, water, and air.

3. Description

A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials Required:

Wildlife & Natural Resource Management, Latest Edition. Kevin H. Deal ISBN-13: 978-1-305-62774-1 Publisher: Cengage

Conservation Biology/Course readings: scientific/technical reports and journal articles, including handouts on specific topics will also be assigned and/or distributed.

Recommended:

Furey John (Ed.), Island Ecology & Resource Management. Saipan MP: Northern Marianas College Press, 2006.

B. Contact Hours

- 1. Lecture: 3 per week / 45 per semester
- 2. Lab: None
- 3. Other: None

C. Credits

- 1. Number: 3
- 2. Type: Regular Degree Credits

D. Catalog Course Description

NR253 examines the species and ecosystems of the region. Course material in NR253 builds on concepts covered in NR150 and NR153. Topics include relationships between organisms, their environment, endangered species, and resource management techniques. Global and regional aspects are stressed. Three hours of lecture required. Prerequisite: NR153 (Course offered in Fall Semester).

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E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course

This Course fulfills the requirements for an AS degree in Natural Resource Management.

F. Course Activities and Design

This course incorporates lectures, guest speakers, video presentations, student oral reports and presentations, take-home and web-based assignments, laboratory exercises, field trips, periodic quizzes, tests, and a final project.

4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment

Prerequisites: NR153 with a grade of C or better Concurrent Course Enrollment: None

Required English/Mathematics Proficiency Level(s)

English Placement Level: EN101 Mathematics Placement Level: MA132

5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed

Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 4-credit course, cost of textbook, and instructional materials fee.

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary and Cengage Access for textbook.

Instructional resources needed for this course include: classroom space, white board and supplies, multimedia projector, basic field supplies.

6. Method of Evaluation

Student progress will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, oral presentations, assignments, laboratory/field trip reports, quizzes, tests, and a final class project. NMC's grading and attendance policies will be followed.

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7. Course Outline

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

- 1.0 Introduction to Species & Ecosystem Management Theory
- 2.0 History of Wildlife Management
- 3.0 The Importance of Natural Resources
- 4.0 Conservation: Wise Use of Natural Resources
- 5.0 Administration of Wildlife Management
- 6.0 Habitat Requirements of Wildlife
- 7.0 The Human Impact on Wildlife Habitat
- 8.0 Modern Wildlife Management
- 9.0 Endangered Species
- 10.0 Wildlife & Fish Identification
 - 10.1 Mammals
 - 10.2 Birds
 - 10.3 Reptiles and Amphibians
 - 10.4 Plants
 - 10.5 Non-Indigenous Species

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8. Instructional Goals

The course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 Regional Natural Resources;
- 2.0 Ecosystems & Ecosystem Services;
- 3.0 Human Impacts on Species & Ecosystems; and
- 4.0 Historical & Current Wildlife Management Methodologies.

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9. Student Learning Outcomes

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

- 1.0 Explain the difference between provisioning and regulating ecosystem services;
- 2.0 Identify important fish and game species in Mariana Islands ecosystems;
- 3.0 Identify important non-harvested species in Mariana Islands ecosystems; and
- 4.0 Explain how knowledge of population dynamics can be used to inform policies for managing harvest of fish and game species.

10. Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes

Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1.0 Tests;
- 2.0 Assignments;
- 3.0 Research Project; and
- 4.0 Final Research Project Presentations.

NR253.2

Final Audit Report

2025-05-16

2025-05-15
Yunzi Zhang (yunzi.zhang@marianas.edu)
Signed
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"NR253.2" History

- Document created by Yunzi Zhang (yunzi.zhang@marianas.edu) 2025-05-15 - 2:21:55 AM GMT
- Document emailed to Kelsey Lynn McClellan (kelsey.mcclellan@marianas.edu) for signature 2025-05-15 2:21:59 AM GMT
- Email viewed by Kelsey Lynn McClellan (kelsey.mcclellan@marianas.edu) 2025-05-15 - 5:13:19 AM GMT
- Document e-signed by Kelsey Lynn McClellan (kelsey.mcclellan@marianas.edu) Signature Date: 2025-05-15 - 5:14:09 AM GMT - Time Source: server
- Document emailed to Velma DLG (velma.deleon.guerrero@marianas.edu) for signature 2025-05-15 5:14:10 AM GMT
- Email viewed by Velma DLG (velma.deleon.guerrero@marianas.edu) 2025-05-15 - 5:56:25 AM GMT
- Document e-signed by Velma DLG (velma.deleon.guerrero@marianas.edu) Signature Date: 2025-05-15 - 5:58:03 AM GMT - Time Source: server
- Document emailed to Yunzi Zhang (yunzi.zhang@marianas.edu) for signature 2025-05-15 5:58:04 AM GMT
- Document e-signed by Yunzi Zhang (yunzi.zhang@marianas.edu) Signature Date: 2025-05-15 - 6:58:01 AM GMT - Time Source: server
- Document emailed to Lorraine Maui (lorraine.maui@marianas.edu) for signature 2025-05-15 6:58:02 AM GMT
- Email viewed by Lorraine Maui (lorraine.maui@marianas.edu) 2025-05-16 - 2:07:04 AM GMT

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