



# NRM 469 Syllabus, spring 2023

TITLE: Survey Research in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

NUMBER: NRM 469

CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITES: NRM F101; STAT F200X

LOCATION: Lectures 201 O'Neill, lab 359 O'Neill

MEETING TIME: Lecture M 5:30 to 7:30; lab W. 2 – 5

COURSE TYPE: Lecture/lab

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Peter J. Fix

OFFICE LOCATION: 323 O'Neill

OFFICE HOURS: Tues. & Thurs. 1:15 to 2:45 p.m.

TELEPHONE: (907) 474-6926

EMAIL ADDRESS: [pjfix@alaska.edu](mailto:pjfix@alaska.edu)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### Catalog description

Social science concepts applied to survey-based human dimensions research. Survey research methods including operationalizing research questions into measurable variables, designing survey instruments, assessing reliability and validity, developing a sampling plan, data management, data analysis, and reporting results.

### Additional course description

Social science surveys can be a valuable tool for understanding human dimensions of natural resource management. This course will provide students with the principles of survey design and analysis, with an emphasis on natural resource

## COURSE GOALS

The course will provide students with knowledge of the following topics:

- How survey research can support management decisions
- Social psychology topics most often applied in natural resource management
- Defining study objectives and identifying and integrating social science concepts most applicable to study concepts
- Developing a quantitative survey instrument to measure research questions/hypotheses
- Assessing the reliability of a survey and validity of results
- Steps to progress from raw survey data to data analysis
- Basic statistical analysis in SPSS
- Documenting results in a report
- Institutional Review Board

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will have the skills to:

Evaluate survey-based research projects to determine whether the methods utilized resulted in study objectives being met.

Complete all phases of a survey-based research project, including developing study objectives, selecting the most appropriate survey method and developing the questionnaire, coding data and conducting statistical analysis, and documenting results.

Present results in an appropriate format (e.g., APA, The Chicago Manual of Style).

## COURSE READINGS/MATERIALS

Required text: Vaske, J. J. (2019). *Survey research and analysis: Applications in parks, recreation and human dimensions, 2nd*. State College, PA: Venture Publishing.

Additional readings will be assigned, and are noted in the class schedule. These readings will be posted to Canvas.

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE

Students must have regular access to a computer and the Internet to access materials in Canvas.

Students will be expected to download course material as well as upload assignments.

Lab sessions will use the software po(e.9(w)-3.4Da )10.6(m)-64(326, 4s)-17,Th-17,Thleft in2(o(e.h-17,Thle)2.9(w)-3.4(ao7





## **COURSE POLICIES**

This course will adhere to the following policies.

Points, equivalent to one letter grade per day late, will be deducted for late assignments (unless

	Assignment Rubric and General Letter Grade (specific points will be determined based on the degree meeting the standards for the letter grade)			
	A	B	C	D
<b>Critical thinking - applies to discussions and written assignments</b>	Issue/problem clearly & comprehensively stated; position is soundly supported; problem identified and supporting material correctly follow from lecture materials; creative in identifying an application.	Issue/problem statement not seriously impeded by omissions; position is adequately supported; problem identified and supporting material follow from lecture materials with few errors; application is moderately novel.	Issue/problem statement not fully developed; position has weak support; problem identified and supporting material loosely follow from lecture materials with some errors, and/or application lacks novelty.	Issue/problem statement lacks clarity; position has weak support; problem identified and supporting material loosely follow lecture materials but contain several key errors, and/or application lacks novelty.
<b>Written Comm. for discussion post</b>	Clear, error-free language; language is professional in tone;			

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments

Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.

**Student protections statement:** UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: <https://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/>.

**Disability services statement:** I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

**Student Academic Support:**

Speaking Center (907-474-5470, [uaf-speakingcenter@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-speakingcenter@alaska.edu), Gruening 507)  
Writing Center (907-474-5314, [uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu), Gruening 8th floor)  
UAF Math Services, [uafmathstatlab@gmail.com](mailto:uafmathstatlab@gmail.com), Chapman Building (for math fee paying students only)  
Developmental Math Lab, Gruening 406  
The Debbie Moses Learning Center at CTC (907-455-2860, 604 Barnette St, Room 120, <https://www.ctc.uaf.edu/student-services/student-success-center/>)

-        --



Additional syllabi statement for courses including off-campus programs and research activities:  
University Sponsored Off-Campus Programs and Research Activities

We want you to know that:

1. UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: [www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination](http://www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination).
2. [REDACTED] or  
online reporting portal.



start	end	Week	Topics Covered	Discussion	Assignment	Quiz	Exam
16-Jan	20-Jan	Week 1	Course introduction	Find complex issue / respond			
23-Jan	27-Jan	Week 2	Common topics in survey-based human dimensions research	Build on complex issue / respond	Bears in Anchorage - ID topics		
30-Jan	3-Feb	Week 3	Introduction to Measurement		Diagram a theory	Basic concepts	
6-Feb	10-Feb	Week 4	More on Attitudes		Potential beliefs & specificity, duck hunting TLRA		
13-Feb	17-Feb	Week 5	Values orientations	What is the utility/mgt. application of the case studies we've looked at?		Id components from case study	
20-Feb	24-Feb	Week 6	Writing and conducting surveys: intro	Find and critique a survey			Exam 1
27-Feb	3-Mar	Week 7	Writing and conducting surveys: examples		Survey evaluation	Pros and cons of different survey methods	
6-Mar	10-Mar	Week 8	Writing and conducting surveys: web		Transfer lab survey to web		
13-Mar	17-Mar	Week 9	Spring Break – no cl				

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]