

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025

---

Spring 2-1-2022

### ENST 310.01: Environment Montana - Anaconda to Zortman

Rosalyn R. LaPier

*University of Montana, Missoula*, [rosalyn.lapier@umontana.edu](mailto:rosalyn.lapier@umontana.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

LaPier, Rosalyn R., "ENST 310.01: Environment Montana - Anaconda to Zortman" (2022). *University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025*. 646.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi2021-2025/646>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi, 2021-2025 by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

ENST 310: ENVIRONMENT MONTANA - FROM ANACONDA TO ZORTMAN  
Spring 2022

Rosalyn LaPier  
T/TH 8:00am-9:20am  
Office Hours: Thursday 1pm-2pm, or by appointment  
<https://umontana.zoom.us/j/98276193359>

Office: Jeanette Rankin Hall 104  
406-243-6787 (office land line)  
[rosalyn.lapier@umt.edu](mailto:rosalyn.lapier@umt.edu)

COURSE PURPOSE:

The land and landscape of Montana has changed dramatically in the past 150 years. And to understand contemporary environmental issues in Montana it is helpful to know important historical events of the past. The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the land, people and places of Montana viewed through the lens of environmental change. Through a combination of lectures, readings, focused in-class discussions, and a research project students will learn about the fascinating environmental story of Montana.

LEARNING GOALS AND OUTCOMES:

- Develop a broad understanding of the field of environmental studies, especially as it relates to the study of environmental issues of Montana;
- Discern different methodological approaches used within environmental studies;
- Improve intellectual skills of reading and writing by critically and effectively summarizing, analyzing and reflecting on scholarly works;
- And improve communication skills by listening to others, speaking publicly and writing an effective academic paper related to environmental studies.

Course Requirements and Readings:

See reading assignments at end of the syllabus.

University of Policies  
Public Health

“We expect, despite our best planning, there will be unexpected issues, disruptions and difficulties in the days ahead.... Get vaccinated and get boosted. Vaccination is the best way to prevent severe illness or hospitalization from COVID-19.... Wear a mask. Masks are required indoors on campus. With the high transmissibility of Omicron, masks with multiple layers of nonwoven material, such as the blue disposable surgical masks, offer better protection.”  
[https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus/communications/jan\\_14\\_22\\_returnspring.php](https://www.umt.edu/coronavirus/communications/jan_14_22_returnspring.php)

Attendance

“Students are expected to attend all class meetings and complete all assignments.... Instructors may excuse brief and occasional absences for reasons of illness, injury, family emergency, religious observance, cultural or ceremonial events, or participation in a University sponsored activity.... Instructors shall excuse absences for reasons of military service or mandatory public

service.” <https://catalog.umt.edu/academics/policies-procedures/>.

#### Student Conduct Code

An interim version of the Student Conduct Code will take effect on August 1, 2021.  
<https://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/>.

#### Disability Equity

“The Office for Disability Equity (ODE) is the campus resource for disability-related information. We provide consultation, training, and academic services to advance accessibility and inclusion by taking an intersectional approach to disability.” <https://www.umt.edu/disability/>.

#### Writing & Public Speaking Center

“The Writing and Public Speaking Center provides one-on-one tutoring to students at all levels and at any time in the writing process.” [www.umt.edu/writingcenter](http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter)

### Weekly Schedule

#### Week 1

1/18	TU	Introduction, Montana, the West & Environmental Stories
1/20	TH	Discussion

#### Week 2

1/25	TU	Before Montana – Readings: Lang “Describing a New Environment”
1/27	TH	Discussion/S&A Due

#### Week 3

2/1	TU	Conflict & Natural Resources – Readings: Gordon “Steamboats, Woodhawks”
2/3	TH	Discussion/S&A Due

#### Week 4

2/8	TU	Extinction & Bison – Readings: Isenberg “Toward a Policy of Destruction”
2/10	TH	Discussion/S&A Due

#### Week 5

2/15	TU	Changing Landscapes – Readings: Benson, “Crow Water” Part 1
2/17	TH	Discussion/S&A Due

#### Week 6

2/22	TU	Fire & Water – PBS Films: “The Big Burn” & “Fort Peck Dam”
2/24	TH	Discussion/S&A Due

Week 7

3/1 TU Settlers & Agriculture – Readings: McLaughlin/Garceau “Hunger”  
3/3 TH Discussion/S&A Due

Week 8

3/8 TU Preservation – Readings: Swanson, “Metcalf” Part 1  
3/10 TH Discussion/S&A Due

Week 9

3/15 TU Conservation – Readings: Swanson. “Brandborg”  
3/17 TH Discussion/S&A Due

SPRING BREAK, 3/21-3/25 (extra week in schedule)

Week 10

3/29 TU Montana Economy & Culture – PBS Film “Class C: The Only Game in Town”  
3/31 TH Discussion

Week 11

4/5 TU Environmental Justice – Readings: Tyer, *Opportunity, Montana*. Due.  
4/7 TH Discussion

Week 12

4/12 TU Telling Environmental Stories (Library & Archives)  
4/14 TH Researching Environmental Stories (Library & Archives)

Week 13

4/19 TU Visiting Author Liz Carlisle (Time & Place to be announced)  
4/21 TH PEAS Farm Presentation (Time & Place to be announced)

Week 14

4/26 TU Group Meetings to Discuss Topics & Research  
4/28 TH Group Meetings to Discuss Topics & Research

Week 15

5/3 TU Environment Montana, Paper Due.  
5/5 TH Final questions about Montana’s Environmental Stories

Week 16

5/10 TU Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 8am - 10am

## Assignments

Class Participation (30 points)

Readings Summary & Analysis (40 points, 8 @ 5 points each)

Book "Opportunity, Montana" Analysis (10 points)

Research Paper (20 points)

## Late Assignments

All late assignment grades will be reduced by 50%.

## Grading:

Final Grade based on a percentage of Total Points (100).

The work you submit for grading must be your own original work, written by you specifically for this course and individual assignments. Any acts of plagiarism or academic dishonesty may result in academic punishment.

## Assignments:

Class participation. Class is a place for collective learning, and collective learning requires both active listening and thoughtful discussion. Do your part to help create community within the course and among Environmental Studies students. This means: listening, fully participating, and being respectful. Showcase your intellectual curiosity by engaging with all types of ideas, not just the ones that interest you. And when you speak, remember to look at your classmates and engage in conversation.

Summary/Analysis/Reflection. Carefully read the weekly readings and/or watch the film before class meets, write a summary of main points, analyze the ideas and concepts of the reading(s)/film, and end with our own reflection of what you learned or how it changed your thinking about Montana. This assignment should be about 500 words (50 word summary, 400 word analysis, 50 word reflection) or ~2 pages double-spaced, plus references. Due midnight the Wednesday before we discuss in-class.

Book Analysis. Read the entire book and write a summary of main points, analyze the ideas and concepts of the reading(s)/film, and end with your own reflection of what you learned or how it changed your thinking about Montana. This assignment should be about 1,000 words plus reference list, or ~4 pages doubled spaced). Due midnight April 5th.

Research Paper. Students will complete a research paper of an issue or controversy of historic or contemporary concern to environmental studies in Montana. Students must use a minimum of ten (10) scholarly references, plus they may also include lecture notes or in-class readings or films (these do not count toward the ten references). This assignment should be about 2,000 words plus reference list, or ~8 pages double spaced. Due midnight May 3rd.

Note Regarding All Assignments:

- Use Chicago Turabian Author/Date style for citations and references.

List of Articles, Films & Books, in order of when they are assigned:

William Lang. "Describing a New Environment: Lewis and Clark and Enlightenment Science in the Columbia River Basin," *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, (Fall, 2004), pp. 353, 360-389.

Greg Gordon. "Steamboats, Woodhawks, & War on the Upper Missouri River." *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, 61, no. 2 (2011): 30-46, 89-90.

Andrew Isenberg. "Toward a Policy of Destruction: Buffaloes, Law and the Market, 1803-83," *Great Plains Quarterly*, (Fall 1992), pp. 227-241.

Megan Benson. "The Fight for Crow Water: Part I, the Early Reservation Years through the Indian New Deal," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Winter, 2007), pp. 24-42, 94-96.

PBS Film "Fort Peck Dam" & PBS Film "The Big Burn"

Ruth McLaughlin (edited by Dee Garceau) "Hunger: A Memoir of Growing Up in Northeastern Montana," *Montana; The Magazine of Western History*, (Autumn 2010), pp. 38-53.

Frederick Swanson. "Lee Metcalf and the Politics of Preservation: Part 1 – A Positive Program of Development," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Spring 2013), pp. 2-23.

Frederick Swanson. "Guy M. Brandborg and the Bitterroot Controversy: A Conservationist's Legacy in the Northern Rockies," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Autumn 2010), pp. 19-37, 93-95.

PBS Film "Class C: The Only Game in Town"

Brad Tyer. *Opportunity, Montana: Big Copper, Bad Water, and the Burial of an American Landscape*. Beacon Press, 2014.

Optional Readings:

Michael Wise. "Killing Montana's Wolves," *Montana; The Magazine of Western History*, (Winter 2013), pp. 51-67.

Miller, Michael M. "Cowboys and Capitalists: The XIT Ranch in Texas and Montana, 1885-1912." *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 65, no. 4 (2015): 3-28.

Megan Benson. "The Fight for Crow Water: Part II, Damming the Bighorn," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Spring, 2008), pp. 3-23, 95-97.

Frederick Swanson. "Lee Metcalf and the Politics of Preservation: Part 2 – Conflict, Compromise and the Art of Leadership," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Summer 2013), pp. 58-75.

Andrew C. Harper. "Conceiving Nature: The Creation of Montana's Glacier National Park," *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, (Summer 2010), pp. 3-24, 91-94.