

## TRAL 499 / Parks & Protected Areas of Patagonia

**CRN:** Undergraduate: TRAL 499; Graduate: 599 Special Topics in Tourism, Recreation and Adventure Leadership

**Credits:** 3 undergraduate; 1 graduate

**Offered:** March, 2025

### **Course Instructors:**

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Oregon State University; Tourism, Recreation and Adventure Leadership.

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Oregon State University; Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Sciences.

### **Course Description**

This course provides a broad yet comprehensive understanding of the theories, problems, and techniques of managing parks, wild and scenic rivers, wilderness, and other protected areas by taking a comparative look at parks and protected areas in the United States and those in Patagonia, Chile.

Students will be exposed to multiple socio-ecological perspectives, requiring them to listen and observe carefully, think critically, and reflect deeply on the complex web of issues facing Chilean land managers and conservationists. Through this immersive learning experience, students will be able to critically analyze conservation and management challenges in their own home countries as well as Patagonia, Chile.

### **Tentative Itinerary**

#### ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

- Asynchronous **Canvas Site**
- **MANDATORY SYNCHRONOUS PRE-DEPARTURE MEETING:** to be scheduled in mid / late February.

#### CHILE PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Thursday 3/20:** depart PDX (or other airport); in transit overnight

**Friday 3/21:** arrive at Balmaceda Airport by 5:00 pm, take shuttle to Coyhaique. Group Welcome Dinner at Mamma Gaucha.

Overnight in Coyhaique (Hostal [\*Huella Patagonica\*](#))

**Saturday, 3/22:** Morning meeting & in-country orientation. Food shop, prep & pack day with free time to explore Coyhaique. Group dinner at Taberna Dolbek.

Overnight in Coyhaique (Hostal [\*Huella Patagonica\*](#))

**Sunday, 3/23:** Early departure for Las Horquetas trek Day 1 and chat with Park rangers of Cerro Castillo

Overnight in Las Horquetas / Rio Turbio camp

**Monday, 3/24:** Las Horquetas trek Day 2

Overnight in Las Horquetas / El bosque camp

**Tuesday, 3/25:** Las Horquetas trek Day 3

Overnight Puerto Tranquilo (Rimaya Hostal or Hostal el Puesto)

**Wednesday, 3/26:** Optional Morning activity (marble boat tour, vista hike) & drive to Puerto Bertrand.

Overnight in Puerto Bertrand (Rapidos del Rio Baker) and raft orientation.

**Thursday, 3/27:** Day 1 of Rio Baker trip – camp on the river

**Friday, 3/28:** Day 2 of Rio Baker trip – hike out and sleep in Puerto Bertrand (Rapidos del Rio Baker)

**Saturday, 3/29:** Wake up early and drive to Balmaceda Airport / Fly home

### **Catalogue Description**

With the explicit goal of enhancing global learning this field-based course immerses students in the challenges and opportunities of parks and protected areas management and conservation within Patagonia, Chile. Students will investigate the many parallels within the Pacific Northwest and United States parks and protected areas while fostering global citizenship through cultural immersion.

### **Student Learning Goals/Expected Outcomes**

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

1. Articulate key concepts of parks and protected areas management in Patagonia, Chile and the United States.
2. Apply informed and critical analysis to contemporary issues related to parks and protected areas in Patagonia, Chile and the United States.
3. Analyze and articulate interconnections between local conditions and global ecological, social, political, and economic trends affecting parks and protected areas management.
4. Demonstrate cultural curiosity and global citizenship.

### **Prerequisites**

To register for this course, students must:

1. Have achieved at least sophomore standing, and a 2.75 GPA or permission of instructor.
2. Submit a complete application through the OSU GO system, which includes a personal essay, unofficial transcripts, and recommendation.

### **Student Learning Assessment**

Each student will prepare a course portfolio documenting their learning experience and outcomes. Portfolios will include a combination of the following:

1. Personal learning objectives and self-assessment of learning
2. Field notes, writing assignments, journals
3. Class critiques of student presentations
4. Graded final projects, which will consist of videos, podcasts, or on-campus presentations that summarize what was learned and student experiences
5. Student and faculty assessment of student participation in and contribution to class activities

### **Evaluation of student performance:**

Grading A-F. Students will be assessed on student participation in preparatory field trip in Oregon (10%), activities in Chile (40%), closing presentations in Chile (20%) and final project presentation at OSU (30%).

### **Required readings**

Readings will be made available through Canvas or links to online content. There is no textbook for this course.

### **Communication**

You are responsible for accessing messages sent via Canvas and emails sent to your ONID address.

### **Student bill of rights**

OSU has twelve established [student rights](#). They include due process in all university disciplinary processes, an equal opportunity to learn, and grading in accordance with the course syllabus.

### **Students with disabilities**

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by Disability Access Services (DAS). If you believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098 or at <http://ds.oregonstate.edu>. DAS notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations.

## **Student wellness**

University students encounter setbacks from time to time. If you encounter difficulties and need assistance, it is important to reach out. Consider discussing the situation with an instructor or academic advisor. Learn about resources that assist with wellness and academic success at [oregonstate.edu/ReachOut](http://oregonstate.edu/ReachOut). If you are in immediate crisis, please contact the Crisis Text Line by texting HOME to 741741 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

Learn about how you can plan for success at [osucascades.edu/studentssuccesscenter](http://osucascades.edu/studentssuccesscenter). Get wellness information, including meeting with a personal counselor or health advisor, at [osucascades.edu/student-wellness](http://osucascades.edu/student-wellness).

## **Academic support**

OSU-Cascades provides support for students through the [Learning Lab](#). I encourage you to take advantage of this support to enhance your learning, writing skills, and general success in courses. Keep in mind the importance of contacting the Learning Lab well in advance of assignment due dates.

## **Academic dishonesty and conduct**

You are expected to do your own work and demonstrate academic integrity in every aspect of this course. Familiarize yourself with the standards set forth in the OSU [Code of Student Conduct](#) section 4.2. If there is any question about whether an act constitutes academic misconduct, it is the student's obligation to seek clarification and approval from the instructor prior to acting.

All assignments for this course will be your own work (not group projects).

## **Professionalism**

Your university experience provides an opportunity for you to develop and practice your professionalism and respect for others. The following principles are helpful:

- Come to class prepared to learn and to contribute.

- Be on time. If you need to arrive late or leave early during the field session, discuss in advance with the instructor.
- Questions and comments are encouraged, but avoid side conversations.
- Use electronic devices only to engage in activities relevant to the class.

By using electronic devices only for class activities (by not multi-tasking), you also likely will learn more. For research on this, see [Glass and Kang](#) (2018).