

Updated: 08-29-2019

NRES 392: Conservation Law Enforcement Theory & Principles (Fall 2019)

Lecture:	Mon Wed	9:30 – 10:45 AM	Room: TNR 352
Discussion 1:	Thu	10:00 – 11:50 AM	Room: CBB 269
Discussion 2:	Thu	2:00 – 3:50 PM	Room: TNR 464

Dr. Michael Rader

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Office hours: Wed 11-12am, Fri 9-10 AM, or by appointment

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Course Description:

The intent of this course is to provide an overview of the fundamentals of law enforcement and how they apply to the specific niche of conservation law enforcement, e.g., conservation officers, park rangers, special agents/investigators. The first part of the course will explore basic concepts that apply to most types of law enforcement, while the latter portion of the course will focus on specific types of conservation law enforcement. The course will survey the various types of federal and state agencies involved in conservation law enforcement and their specific areas of focus. Classes will emphasize a wide variety of types of enforcement, applicable laws, field techniques, human dimensions, and operational challenges. The course will focus heavily on conservation law enforcement in Wisconsin but many of the topics will be applicable across North America. The course is equally designed for those desiring a career in natural resources law enforcement or those desiring an in-depth understanding of the function and challenges of law enforcement in contemporary natural resources management.

Course Outcomes:

1. You will be able to demonstrate an understanding of fundamental concepts of law enforcement including constitutional law, police organization, search and seizure, investigation, communication, use of force, discretion and community policing.
2. You will be able to identify the various organizations involved in conservation law enforcement in the United States and describe the types of enforcement they are involved in.
3. You will be able demonstrate an understanding of relevant natural resources laws and law enforcement strategies in a variety of areas, such as hunting, fishing, trapping, recreational vehicle, Federal, water regulations enforcement, etc., and develop field skills in these areas.
4. You will develop and demonstrate oral and written communication, and critical thinking skills.

Readings:

1. Grant, H.B., and K.J. Terry. 2017. Law Enforcement in the 21st Century. 4th edition. Pearson: Boston, MA. (textbook; required)
2. Lankford, A. 2010. Ranger Confidential: Living, Working, and Dying in the National Parks. Falcon Guides: Guilford, CT; Helena, MT. (suggested)
3. Wight, E. 2014. Life and Death in the North Woods: The Story of the Maine Game Warden Service. Down East Books: Camden, ME. (suggested)
4. Various articles and handouts provided during class periods and on Canvas.

Material from readings is testable.

Guest Speakers:

I will be inviting several guest speakers to speak to the class throughout the semester. My intent is to have speakers who are active in unique areas of conservation law enforcement come in and speak about their first-hand experiences. As well, there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and potentially make some future contacts. Material from guest lectures is testable.

Discussion/Lab:

My purpose for the discussion period is to provide you with more hands-on, practical experience of concepts we discuss in class or techniques that might be beneficial to you in a conservation law enforcement career (see schedule for weekly topics). My intent is to have most of these experiences outdoors in a field situation, e.g., Schmeckle Reserve, since that is the environment you will have to work in. As such, be prepared to be in the field for discussion and dress for the weather.

Field Scenarios:

We are planning a field scenario experience which will give you the opportunity to participate in simulated conservation warden field contacts (e.g., fishing, hunting, etc.) supervised and coached by actual Wisconsin DNR conservation wardens. These scenarios will provide you first-hand experience in the challenges involved with applying theory to practice and the human dimensions of law enforcement. They will closely resemble the type of scenarios used to train and evaluate field and recruit wardens. Scenarios will be conducted at Schmeckle Reserve on **Oct. 24**. The training will be outdoors. Dress for the weather and bring a notebook and pencil.

Grading Scheme:

Your course grade will be based on the following components:

Exam 1:	20%
Exam 2:	20%
Final Exam:	20%
Discussion/Lab:	30%
• 10% attendance	
• 10% reports (2 reports, 5% each)	
• 10% quizzes (2 quizzes, 5% each)	
In-class assignments/quizzes:	10%

Grade	%
A	93-100
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	65-66
F	Below 65

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Exams: There will be two midterm exams and a final exam. The final is cumulative. There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam you will receive a zero unless I excuse it. See “Due Dates/Late Policy” for absence policy. If you have a valid excuse for missing an exam, I will just double the score of your other midterm exam.

In-class assignments/quizzes:

I will give quizzes and other assignments (e.g., case studies, scenarios, current events, book discussions) in class and on Canvas from time to time to reinforce learning.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory and necessary to be successful in the course. I consider attendance to be a component of professionalism (See “Professionalism” below). Additionally, material will be covered in class that is pertinent to exams and class assignments that will not be directly stated in any provided slides, class outlines, class notes, etc. I have noticed in previous classes that success is consistent with regular attendance.

Communication: Students are expected to routinely check their UWSP email and the Canvas course site for updates and materials.

Due Dates/Late Policy: All assignments are due on the specified due date at the beginning of class. Late assignments will incur a **5% penalty per day they are late. You are responsible for your own time management and keeping up with due dates.** Illness, family emergency, etc., may be cause for extending a due date if I am notified **prior** to the due date (email and voicemail have date and time stamps) and you can **document** (e.g., Dr.’s note) your absence.

Course Effort/Study: I believe being a full-time University student is akin to having a full-time job. A full-time job generally equates to at least 40 hours of work per week. You will only spend approximately a third of this time in class. You must spend the additional time on **your own** studying, reading, completing assignments, etc. To get the most out of this course and your University experience (i.e., grades, knowledge, skills, etc.), **you** must put in the time outside of class. A good rule of thumb is to plan on spending two hours of outside preparation for every hour you spend in class. Budget this time into your weekly/monthly planner.

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is central to the mission of higher education in general and UWSP in particular. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, etc.) is taken very seriously. Don’t do it! The minimum penalty for a violation of academic integrity is a failure (zero) for the assignment. For more information, see the “Student Academic Standards and Disciplinary Procedures” section of the Community Rights and Responsibilities document, UWSP Chapter 14. This can be accessed by viewing page 11 of the document at: <http://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf>

Professionalism: A professional is competent, reliable, respectful, and has integrity. It is a necessary attribute for most careers, particularly law enforcement. It is never too early to begin developing a professional mindset, e.g., being on time with the appropriate equipment, being competent and knowledgeable in your field, completing assignments correctly and on time, being respectful to others, etc. **I may deduct up to 5% of your final course grade for lack of professionalism**, e.g., absences, profanity, disrespect, sleeping, disrupting class with unsolicited texting and talking, etc.

Disability Policy: Please discuss with me as soon as possible any concerns you may have regarding a disability, so we can accommodate you as per UWSP policy.

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Emergency Procedures:

If you see or hear something, say something.

In the event of a medical emergency call 9-1-1 or use Red Emergency Phone. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.

In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to the lowest level interior room without window exposure. See www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span structures (gyms, pools or large classrooms).

In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner. Meet at location 200 yards from building. Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.

Active Shooter/Code React – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders.

See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Procedures at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.

(Source: UWSP Risk Management Dept.)

Tentative schedule:

	Topics	Reading	Discussion/lab
Week 1 <i>Sep. 3-6</i>	-Syllabus/introductions	Grant & Terry- Ch. 1; Begin Wight	Positioning/Stances/ Basic contacts
Week 2 <i>Sep. 9-13</i>	-History -Careers & Agencies	Grant & Terry- Ch. 2, 4	Basic field craft
Week 3 <i>Sep. 16-20</i>	-Selection & Training - Constitutional Law	Grant & Terry- Ch. 13, 3	Orienteering
Week 4 <i>Sep. 23-27</i>	-Investigations & Evidence -Report Writing	Grant & Terry- Ch. 8	Infil- & exfiltration, surveillance, report writing
Week 5 <i>Sep. 30-Oct. 4</i>	-Search & Seizure -Use of Force	Grant & Terry- Ch. 7, 9	Evidence (Report #1)
Week 6 <i>Oct. 7-11</i>	-Patrol fundamentals -Professional Communications	Grant & Terry- Ch. 6	Report review, use of force, search/seizure
Week 7 <i>Oct. 14-18</i>	-Exam 1 (Oct. 14) -Interview & Interrogation	Complete Wight	Interview & interrogation (Quiz #1)
Week 8 <i>Oct. 21-25</i>	-Prosecution -Community Policing/Discretion/Cultural Awareness	Grant & Terry- Ch. 5, 10, 11; Begin Lankford	Scenarios
Week 9 <i>Oct. 28-Nov. 1</i>	-Waterfowl Enforcement -Deer/Bear Enforcement	WI DNR regulations	Communications practical
Week 10 <i>Nov. 4-8</i>	-Fishing Enforcement -Boating Enforcement/OWI	WI DNR regulations	Fishing
Week 11 <i>Nov. 11-15</i>	-Turkey/Small Game Enforcement -Ginseng Enforcement	WI DNR regulations	Waterfowl
Week 12 <i>Nov. 18-22</i>	-ATV/Snowmobile Enforcement/OWI -Parks Enforcement	WI DNR regulations/website	Turkey (or Parks?)
Week 13 <i>Nov. 25-29</i>	-Commercial Enforcement - <i>no class; independent work</i>	WI DNR website	<i>No lab- Thanksgiving</i>
Week 14 <i>Dec. 2-6</i>	-Exam 2 (Dec. 2) -Trapping Enforcement	WI DNR website	Deer
Week 15 <i>Dec. 9-13</i>	-Water Regulations -Wrap up/Review	WI DNR regulations; complete Lankford	Trapping (Quiz #2; Report #2)
Week 16 <i>Dec. 17</i>	Final Exam Tues., 2:45pm-4:45pm		Final Exam