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Natural Resources 473: Resource Policy & Law (Spring 2020)

Instructor: Dr. Michael Rader

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Course Time/Location: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00-9:50am TNR 120

Course Description:

The intent of this course is to introduce you to the development and implementation of natural resource policy and law in Wisconsin and North America. This course will explore the challenges and opportunities inherent to the administration of natural resource management for a diverse array of contemporary natural resource issues, such as wildlife, forests, rangelands, protected areas, water, air, indigenous peoples, etc. This course exposes you to the social, political, and economic factors—in addition to the environmental factors—that influence natural resource management in the real world, as well as the interest groups involved. As such, the course will emphasize critical analysis of natural resource policy issues and the development of independent thinking.

Course Outcomes:

1. You will be able to describe a variety of contemporary natural resource policy issues and explain social, political and economic factors affecting policy implementation.
2. You will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how federal and state governments are organized and how they develop and implement natural resource policy.
3. You will be able to explain the legal foundations of natural resource administration.
4. You will develop and demonstrate your critical thinking, and oral and written communication skills.

Required readings:

1. Leopold, B.D., W.B. Kessler, and J.L. Cummins. 2018. North American Wildlife Policy & Law. Boone and Crockett Club, Missoula, MT.
2. Various articles and handouts provided during class periods and on Canvas.

Material from readings is testable.

Grading Scheme:

I base your course grade on the following components:

- Exam A: 25%
- Exam B: 25%
- Final Exam: 30%
- Quizzes/Assignments/Participation: 15%
- Debates: 5%

Exams can be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer, matching, True/False, and discussion.

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

Exams: There will be **four exams**: three midterms and a final. The final is cumulative. You can drop your lowest midterm exam score (not the final). There are **no makeup exams**. If you have an excused absence to miss an exam, that will be the exam you drop. You must take exams on the scheduled dates (**including the final**) or you will receive zero credit. See “Due Dates/Late Policy” for absence policy.

Quizzes/assignments/participation: To develop your thinking and writing skills, I will periodically assign in-class writing assignments, homework, and quizzes that you must complete satisfactorily in order to receive credit.

Debates: The last few classes we will hold mandatory, structured class debates to provide you with experience in researching and articulating diverse and opposing views on selected natural resource policy and law topics, whether you agree with them or not (see: https://www.niu.edu/facdev/pdf/guide/strategies/classroom_debates.pdf). The focus is on researching, supporting and articulating an argument and not on who “wins” or “loses”. My tentative plan is to divide the class into four teams. As a class, we will select two resource policy position topics for which there can be both pro and con arguments, e.g., wolves in Wisconsin should be delisted from the Endangered Species Act. Teams 1 and 2 will research and be prepared to present pro and con arguments for Position 1. Teams 3 and 4 will research and be prepared to present pro and con arguments for Position 2. We will randomly select which two

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teams will debate on Tuesday, May 5. We will also randomly select which team will argue the pro or con position. We will repeat the process for the remaining two teams on Thursday, May 7.

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, I cover material in class pertinent to exams and class assignments that I do not explicitly write in any provided slides, class outlines, class notes, etc. I have noticed in previous classes that success is consistent with regular attendance.

Communication: I expect students to check their UWSP email and the **Canvas** course site routinely for updates and materials.

Due Dates/Late Policy: All assignments are due on the specified due date. 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.

Tentative schedule:

		Topic	Reading	Assignments
Week 1 1/20-1/24	<i>Tue</i>	Syllabus, Introductions	Foreward, Preface, Introduction	
	<i>Thu</i>	Need for Policy	Ch. 1	
	<i>Fri</i>	History of Policy & Law	Ch. 2	
Week 2 1/27-1/31	<i>Tue</i>	Resource Management Challenges		
	<i>Thu</i>	Policy Options		
	<i>Fri</i>	Federal & State Jurisdiction	Ch. 5	
Week 3 2/3-2/7	<i>Tue</i>	Development of Law	Ch. 6	
	<i>Thu</i>	U.S. Constitution & Wildlife Policy	Ch. 7	
	<i>Fri</i>	Executive Branch		
Week 4 2/10-2/14	<i>Tue</i>	Legislative Branch		
	<i>Thu</i>	Judicial Branch		
	<i>Fri</i>	Statutory Law & Agency Rulemaking	Ch. 9	
Week 5 2/17-2/21	<i>Tue</i>	EXAM 1		
	<i>Thu</i>	Legislative Process for Conservation Funding	Ch. 23	
	<i>Fri</i>	Enforcement	Ch. 10	
Week 6 2/24-2/28	<i>Tue</i>	Indigenous Peoples & Natural Resources/Tribal Policy	Ch. 11 & 31	
	<i>Thu</i>	Government Agencies & Conservation Organizations	Ch. 29	
	<i>Fri</i>	State-level Management	Ch. 30	
Week 7 3/2-3/6	<i>Tue</i>	Nonprofit Sector	Ch. 32	
	<i>Thu</i>	Policy Formulation		
	<i>Fri</i>	Public Trust Doctrine	Ch. 13	
Week 8 3/9-3/13	<i>Tue</i>	Wildlife: Threatened Species		
	<i>Thu</i>	Wildlife: Game Species		

	<i>Fri</i>	Wildlife: Nuisance/Damage		
3/14-3/22		SPRING BREAK		
Week 9 3/23-3/27	<i>Tue</i>	Wildlife: Disease		
	<i>Thu</i>	Captive Wildlife		
	<i>Fri</i>	Invasive Species		
Week 10 3/30-4/3	<i>Tue</i>	EXAM 2		
	<i>Thu</i>	Forests		
	<i>Fri</i>	Rangelands		
Week 11 4/6-4/10	<i>Tue</i>	Protected Areas		
	<i>Thu</i>	Water: Federal		
	<i>Fri</i>	Water: State		
Week 12 4/13-4/17	<i>Tue</i>	Fisheries		
	<i>Thu</i>	Air		
	<i>Fri</i>	Climate		
Week 13 4/20-4/24	<i>Tue</i>	Mining		
	<i>Thu</i>	Private Lands Conservation	Ch. 20	
	<i>Fri</i>	Policy Job in Conservation	Ch. 39	
Week 14 4/27-5/1	<i>Tue</i>	EXAM 3		
	<i>Thu</i>	Role of the Public	Ch. 40	
	<i>Fri</i>	Debate Prep.		
Week 15 5/4-5/8	<i>Tue</i>	Debates		
	<i>Thu</i>	Debates		
	<i>Fri</i>	Wrap Up/Review		
Week 16 5/11-5/15	<i>Wed</i>	Final Exam 5/13 1230 - 1430		Final Exam

Emergency Procedures:

If you see/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.

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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.)