

Updated: 01-19-2024

Natural Resources 473: Resource Policy & Law (Spring 2024)

Instructor: Dr. Michael Rader

Office: TNR 378

Office hours: Tue Thu 10-11am or by appointment

Phone: (715) 346-2876

Email: mrader@uwsp.edu

Course Time/Location:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00-9:50am TNR 352

Course Description:

The need for, purposes, making, and implementation of natural resources legislation and policy. Available for graduate credit as NRES 673.

Course Objectives:

1. You will be able to demonstrate an understanding of key federal and Wisconsin natural resource laws.
2. You will be able to describe and explain the various functions and constitutional foundations of federal, state, and local government in natural resource policy and law.
3. You will be able to explain and justify the need for policy in natural resource management, how policy is made and implemented and the stakeholders involved.
4. You will develop and demonstrate your critical thinking, problem solving, and oral and written communication skills to analyze natural resource problems and formulate policy solutions.

Required text:

1. Leopold, B.D., W.B. Kessler, and J.L. Cummins. 2018. *North American Wildlife Policy & Law*. Boone and Crockett Club, Missoula, MT.

Material from readings is testable.

Grading:

I will assess your progress in meeting the course objectives by the following tools, which will comprise your final course grade:

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|--------------|-----|
| Quizzes (3) | 30% |
| Final Exam | 30% |
| Presentation | 20% |
| Peer reviews | 10% |
| Assignments | 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 |

****I will not adjust your grade up at the end of the semester just because you are “close” to the next grade. I do not give extra credit at the end of the semester. You must do the work during the semester to earn the grade you want and are capable of. I will round up from .5 to the next higher whole number.***

Quizzes: There will be three quizzes, one at the end of each course module to assess your knowledge and understanding of that material.

Final Exam: The final exam will be cumulative and will assess your knowledge and understanding of the entire course and your problem solving, critical thinking, and writing skills.

Presentation: You and a classmate will give a five-minute oral presentation to the class on a natural resource policy and law issue, selected in consultation with the instructor. This assignment will develop and assess your oral presentation, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Further instructions will be provided in class. Depending on class size, some students may have to present solo.

Peer Reviews: You must complete three peer reviews of student presentations to develop your critical thinking, oral, and written communication skills. Peer reviews will be graded for quality by the instructor and then provided to the students that were reviewed.

Assignments: To develop and assess your critical thinking, problem solving, and writing skills, I will periodically assign in-class writing assignments, homework, and quizzes that you must complete satisfactorily in order to receive credit.

Attendance: Attendance in class is required. You are expected to fully participate in the course, e.g., attend lectures, participate in discussions, etc., and getting a good grade in the course is usually dependent on that. You will receive only two excused absences (see Due Dates/Late Policy); use them wisely. You are responsible for all missed material.

Updated: 01-19-2024

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 at the beginning of class. Late assignments will incur a **10% penalty the first week they are late and a 20% penalty the second week they are late. Late assignments will not be accepted after two weeks. You are responsible for your own time management and keeping up with due dates.** Serious medical or mental health emergency (self, parent, spouse, child), death of immediate family member (sibling, spouse, child, parent), military deployment, student-athlete sporting event, and natural disaster (e.g., tornado, flood, blizzard) 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>

Lecture materials and recordings for NRES 473 are protected intellectual property at UW-Stevens Point. Students in this course may use the materials and recordings for their personal use related to participation in this class. Students may also take notes solely for their personal use. If a lecture is not already recorded, you are not authorized to record my lectures without my permission unless you are considered by the university to be a qualified student with a disability requiring accommodation. [Regent Policy Document 4-1] Students may not copy or share lecture materials and recordings outside of class, including posting on internet sites or selling to commercial entities. Students are also prohibited from providing or selling their personal notes to anyone else or being paid for taking notes by any person or commercial firm without the instructor's express written permission. Unauthorized use of these copyrighted lecture materials and recordings constitutes copyright infringement and may be addressed under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

Professionalism and Behavior: 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, texting, phone calls, video games, talking, using electronic devices, earbuds, i.e., anything that takes your full attention away from class or distracts your classmates or instructor. You may be asked to leave the class if you don't correct unprofessional behavior. If the conduct continues, the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Dean of Students may get involved.

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 |
|---|------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Module 1- The Role of Government | | | |
| Week 1 1/22-1/26 | <i>Mon</i> | Syllabus, The Need for Policy | Foreward, Preface, Introduction, Ch. 1 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | History of Policy & Law | Ch. 2 |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Federal & State Jurisdiction | Ch. 5, Preamble, U.S. Constitution |
| Week 2 1/29-2/2 | <i>Mon</i> | U.S. Constitution & Wildlife Policy | Ch. 7 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | North American Model | Ch. 13 |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Executive Branch | Article II, U.S. Constitution |
| Week 3 2/5-2/9 | <i>Mon</i> | Agencies & Rulemaking | Ch. 9 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Executive Orders | Ch. 21 |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Enforcement | Ch. 10 |
| Week 4 2/12-2/16 | <i>Mon</i> | State Management | Ch. 30 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Legislative Branch | Article 1, U.S. Constitution |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Budget Process | Ch. 23 |

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| Week 5 2/19-2/23 | <i>Mon</i> | Judicial Branch | Article III, U.S. Constitution |
| | <i>Wed</i> | QUIZ 1: The Role of Government | |
| Module 2- Policymaking | | | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Resource Management Challenges | |
| Week 6 2/26-3/1 | <i>Mon</i> | Policy Options | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Policy Formulation | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Non-governmental Organizations | Ch.'s 29 & 32 |
| Week 7 3/4-3/8 | <i>Mon</i> | Indigenous Peoples & Natural Resources/Tribal Policy | Ch.'s 11 & 31 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Private Lands Conservation | Ch. 20 |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Role of the Public | Ch. 40 |
| Week 8 3/11-3/15 | <i>Mon</i> | Natural Resource Politics | Ch. 42 |
| | <i>Wed</i> | How to give an oral presentation | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | How to do a case study/problem solving | |
| 3/16-3/24 | | SPRING BREAK | |
| Module 3- Federal & Wisconsin Law | | | |
| Week 9 3/25-3/29 | <i>Mon</i> | QUIZ 2: Policymaking | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Threatened/Endangered Species | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Game Species | |
| Week 10 4/1-4/5 | <i>Mon</i> | Human-Wildlife Conflict | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Wildlife Disease | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Captive Wildlife | |
| Week 11 4/8-4/12 | <i>Mon</i> | Invasive Species | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Forests | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Rangelands | |
| Week 12 4/15-4/19 | <i>Mon</i> | Protected Areas | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Water- Federal | |

Updated: 01-19-2024

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| | <i>Fri</i> | Water- State | |
| Week 13 4/22-4/26 | <i>Mon</i> | Fisheries | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Air | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Climate change | |
| Week 14 4/29-5/3 | <i>Mon</i> | Mining | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | QUIZ 3: Federal & WI Law | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Presentations | |
| Week 15 5/6-5/10 | <i>Mon</i> | Presentations | |
| | <i>Wed</i> | Presentations | |
| | <i>Fri</i> | Presentations | |
| Week 16 5/13-5/17 | <i>Wed</i> | FINAL EXAM 5/15 Wednesday, 12:00-2:30 PM | |

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.

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.)