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Natural Resources 473: Resource Policy & Law (Spring 2023)

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 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/or 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:

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

****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.***

Exams: There will be **four exams**: three midterms and a final. The final is cumulative. Your lowest midterm exam score will be dropped (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/citl/resources/guides/instructional-guide/classroom-debates.shtml>). 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 teams and have the teams debate one or

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more 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.

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.

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>

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

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under the university's policies, UWS Chapters 14 and 17, governing student academic and non-academic misconduct.

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
Week 1 1/23-1/27	<i>Mon</i>	Syllabus, Introductions	Foreward, Preface, Introduction
	<i>Wed</i>	Need for Policy	Ch. 1
	<i>Fri</i>	History of Policy & Law	Ch. 2
Week 2 1/30-2/3	<i>Mon</i>	Resource Management Challenges	
	<i>Wed</i>	Policy Options	
	<i>Fri</i>	Federal & State Jurisdiction	Ch. 5
Week 3 2/6-2/10	<i>Mon</i>	Development of Law	Ch. 6
	<i>Wed</i>	U.S. Constitution & Wildlife Policy	Ch. 7
	<i>Fri</i>	Executive Branch	
Week 4 2/13-2/17	<i>Mon</i>	Legislative Branch	
	<i>Wed</i>	Judicial Branch	
	<i>Fri</i>	Statutory Law & Agency Rulemaking	Ch. 9
Week 5 2/20-2/24	<i>Mon</i>	EXAM 1	
	<i>Wed</i>	Legislative Process for Conservation Funding	Ch. 23
	<i>Fri</i>	Enforcement	Ch. 10

Week 6 2/27-3/3	<i>Mon</i>	Indigenous Peoples & Natural Resources/Tribal Policy	Ch. 11 & 31
	<i>Wed</i>	Government Agencies & Conservation Organizations	Ch. 29
	<i>Fri</i>	State-level Management	Ch. 30
Week 7 3/6-3/10	<i>Mon</i>	Nonprofit Sector	Ch. 32
	<i>Wed</i>	Policy Formulation	
	<i>Fri</i>	Public Trust Doctrine	Ch. 13
Week 8 3/13-3/17	<i>Mon</i>	Wildlife: Threatened Species	
	<i>Wed</i>	Wildlife: Game Species	
	<i>Fri</i>	Wildlife: Nuisance/Damage	
3/18-3/26		SPRING BREAK	
Week 9 3/27-3/31	<i>Mon</i>	Wildlife: Disease	
	<i>Wed</i>	Captive Wildlife	
	<i>Fri</i>	Invasive Species	
Week 10 4/3-4/7	<i>Mon</i>	EXAM 2	
	<i>Wed</i>	Forests	
	<i>Fri</i>	Rangelands	
Week 11 4/10-4/14	<i>Mon</i>	Protected Areas	
	<i>Wed</i>	Water: Federal	
	<i>Fri</i>	Water: State	
Week 12 4/17-4/21	<i>Mon</i>	Fisheries	
	<i>Wed</i>	Air	
	<i>Fri</i>	Climate	
Week 13 4/24-4/28	<i>Mon</i>	Mining	
	<i>Wed</i>	Private Lands Conservation	Ch. 20
	<i>Fri</i>	Role of the Public	Ch. 40
Week 14 5/1-5/5	<i>Mon</i>	EXAM 3	
	<i>Wed</i>	Natural Resource Politics	Ch. 42
	<i>Fri</i>	Debate Prep.	
Week 15 5/8-5/12	<i>Mon</i>	Debates	

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	<i>Wed</i>	Debates	
	<i>Fri</i>	Wrap Up/Review	
Week 16 5/15-5/19	<i>Mon</i>	Final Exam 5/15 Monday, 8:00-10:00 AM	

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/Escapes, 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.)