# NR 320: Natural Resource History and Policy

## Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship

## Warner College of Natural Resources

# Course Syllabus

**Instructor**

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Office hours: By appointment

**Course Details**

Term: Summer 2019

Class Meeting Days: M, T, W, TH

Class Meeting Times: 1-3:30pm

Class Location: Forestry 127

Credits: 3

**Course Overview**

This course examines public land and natural resources history and policy from multiple perspectives. Students will learn about natural resource policy development and decision-making, common drivers of natural resource challenges, and solutions to contemporary management problems and conflicts. The course will cover environmental planning and a number of substantive policy areas, including national forest, public rangeland, water, wildlife/biodiversity, and protected area policy, among others.

# **Course Goals and Objectives**

At the end of this course students should:

* Have a comprehensive understanding of the history of public land management in the United States.
* Understand the role of the three branches of the U.S. government, interest groups, and the general public in affecting policy formulation and implementation.
* Have a basic knowledge of administrative and constitutional law as they apply to natural resource management.
* Know the history of NEPA and understand the key components of the process and content required to complete environmental impact assessments.
* Understand the general history and content of national park, public range, wilderness, and national forest policies and the basic requirements for land and resource management planning.
* Know the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and how it applies to public and private lands.
* Be able to critically analyze natural resource policy, understanding the interplay of statutory guidance and administrative discretion; the pros and cons of different levels of public involvement; the intersection of science and public values in policy; and the connection between ethics, framing, and advocacy in policy processes.
* Understand the integration of technical, financial, human resource/dimensions, institutional, and legal aspects of public and private natural resource management.

Proficiency will be evaluated in the following key ways:

* Students must demonstrate effective skills at summarizing and critically analyzing concepts through essay exams.
* Students will be tested on their knowledge of the content through multiple-choice exams.
* Students will be expected to provide an overview of and critical analysis of key policies associated with a natural resource controversy in a group poster project, where they will present their work in a student poster session with their peers and instructors.

# **Course Prerequisites**

Students should have strong written communication skills at this point in their academic careers and be able to distill key points from readings and lectures. There are no prerequisites for this course.

# **Required Texts and Materials**

The Red Lodge Clearinghouse website: [www.rlch.org](http://www.rlch.org).

Other assigned readings will be posted on Canvas: <http://canvas.colostate.edu>. You will need to log on to check your grades, view announcements, and obtain posted materials, including lectures, assignments, readings, and handouts.

We will also discuss multiple contemporary issues in natural resource management. An excellent way to stay up-to-date is provided by (SUBSCRIBE TO THESE IMMEDIATELY):

1) The Center for the Rocky Mountain West’s Mountain West News at [www.mountainwestnews.org](http://www.mountainwestnews.org)

2) High Country News online at [www.hcn.org](http://www.hcn.org)

3) and E&E news online at [www.eenews.net](http://www.eenews.net)

**Important Dates to Remember**

Last Day to Drop Wednesday July 17th

Registration Closes Wednesday July 17th

Midterm I Tuesday July 23rd

Withdraw Deadline Sunday July 28th

Final Exam Thursday August 8th

\*\*Dates of online quizzes are listed in the course schedule below.

**Course Schedule and/or Schedule of Assignments**

This syllabus is designed to be flexible and may change. Bring this schedule to each class session for regular updates. All readings are to be done before class unless otherwise specified. Students must read and be responsible for text material that may not be covered in class. Given time constraints, some class lectures may have to be sacrificed, and independent reading will have to take their place. All listed readings are required unless I indicate otherwise; additional readings may be assigned.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Date | Content | Readings/Assignments |
| Frameworks for Thinking about NR Policy | July 15th | Syllabus, Introduction  Drivers of Natural Resource Conflict | **Quiz 1**  **Please read Wilkinson Chapter 1 for Tomorrow’s quiz** |
| Overview of NR Lawmaking | July 16th | Eras of NR Policy  History of Disposition of Public Lands  Branches of Gov’t | **Quiz 2** |
| Overviewing of NR Lawmaking | July 17th | Rulemaking, statutory law, and administrative discretion  Interest Groups  Externalities, Incentives, and Subsidies  Agency Capture | **Quiz 3** |
| Environmental Planning | July 18th | NEPA | **In-class Quiz 4**  **Please bring electronic device** |
| Midterm | July 22nd | MIDTERM REVIEW |  |
| Midterm | July 23rd | MIDTERM |  |
| Mining Policy | July 24th | Hardrock Mining Law | **Quiz 5** |
| Rangeland Policy | July 25th | Rangeland Policy | **Quiz 6** |
| Water policy | July 29th | Water Policy 1 and 2 | **Quiz 7** |
| Forest Policy | July 30th | Forest Policy | **Quiz 8** |
| Forest Policy | July 31st | NFMA and NFMA Activity | **In-Class Quiz 9**  **Please bring electronic device** |
| Collaborative Gov. | August 1st | Collaborative Governance and NR Policy | **Quiz 10** |
| ESA | August 5th | ESA and Wildlife | **Quiz 11** |
| National Parks | August 6th | National Parks and Wilderness | **Quiz 12** |
| Final | August 7th | **Final Review** |  |
| Final | August 8th | **FINAL** |  |

**Assignments**

**Mid-term & Final Examination**: Exams are in-class and will consist of multiple choice and short essays. The midterms will cover assigned readings, lectures, and discussions for all material prior to the test. The final exam is comprehensive for the semester, but it will emphasize assigned readings, lectures, and discussions for the last half of the semester. Test questions will emphasize recurring themes identified in the readings and lectures– this will require you to keep up with readings, attend class, and pay attention. Be aware that the material we cover early in the semester is foundational for the rest of the course.

**Quizzes**: There will be twelve quizzes. Each quiz is based on the REQUIRED readings and lectures that are due the same day of the quiz. Quizzes will be opened after class and will be available for 24 hours from the time they are opened. *These are independent quizzes, please do not take them together, this is considered a form of cheating and if suspected will result in partial to zero credit.*

**Basis for Final Grade**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 93-100: A  90-92: A-  88-89: B+  83-87: B  80-82: B-  78-79: C+  70-77: C  60-69: D  59 and below: F | Points Comprising Final Grade:  Midterm: 100 points (~24%)  Final: 200 points (~48%)  Quizzes: 120 points (~29%)  Total: 420 points possible |

**Course Policies**

The bulk of the course content will be delivered during lectures. Therefore, attending class is key to your success in this course. Most class sessions will involve a combination of lecture, discussion, and informal debate. Occasionally, we will have short writing exercises to fuel in-class discussion. At times, this class will be participatory and conversational in nature. Unless otherwise specified, all students must read the reading assignments *prior* to class and be ready to discuss the readings on a regular basis.

Any student who misses class for any reason will be held responsible for all materials covered and all announcements made during his/her absence. Do not ask me for missed handouts or about material that was covered unless you have a valid excuse and cannot obtain this information from a peer. Please use other students as your first resource for getting caught up. If you are going to miss an exam, you must discuss this with Kathleen McIntyre and have her approval beforehand.

Chronic tardiness is rude. Please stay off your cell phones during class except when we use them for quizzes. Please do not bring to class outside work or other activities. If you show up, be present and give your whole attention for time we are in class together. As the instructor, I reserve the right to ask students to leave who are not paying attention, are being disruptive, or are attending to work unrelated to NR 320.

Given the nature of discussion expected in this course, showing respect for others is paramount and is taken very seriously. We will strive to create a collaborative, engaging, and respectful forum in which numerous opinions can be discussed and explored. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Animated discussion and respectful disagreement is acceptable and encouraged.

**Late Work Policy**

Late work is not accepted in this course. Quizzes cannot be made up or taken late. If you miss a quiz you can use extra credit to make up the points. If you are going to miss an exam, you must discuss this with Kathleen McIntyre and have her approval beforehand.

**Extra Credit** **Policy**

You may acquire a total of 30 extra credit points for the semester.

* You may present a news article to the class for 10 points extra credit. It should be related to what we are learning at the time and should provide some thought-provoking analysis or commentary, rather than consisting only of factual information. If possible, please send Kathleen McIntyre a copy of the article prior to the upcoming class session to ensure there is time for you to present and so we can confirm that it is relevant. We will take a maximum of 3 articles per session, so be sure to present early.

**Grades of "Incomplete"**

Per university policy, an instructor may assign temporary grade of Incomplete to a student who demonstrates that he or she could not complete the requirements of the course due to circumstances beyond the student's control and not reasonably foreseeable. A student must be passing a course at the time that an Incomplete is requested unless the instructor determines that there are extenuating circumstances to assign an Incomplete to a student who is not passing the course. When an instructor assigns an Incomplete, he or she shall specify in writing using the Department Incomplete Grade Form the requirements the student shall fulfill to complete the course as well as the reasons for granting an Incomplete when the student is not passing the course. The instructor shall retain a copy of this statement in his or her grade records and provide copies to the student and the department head or his or her designee. (Section I.6 of the *Academic* *Faculty and Administrative Professional Manual*)

**Library & Research Help**

The CSU Libraries Help Desk provides research and technical assistance either in person at Morgan Library or by phone at 970-491-1841.  Jocelyn Boice is the librarian supporting this course.  Contact her by email at [jocelyn.boice@colostate.edu](mailto:jocelyn.boice@colostate.edu) or by phone at 970-491-3882 to ask questions or set up an appointment for in-depth research help.

**Disability Access**

Colorado State University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need accommodations must first contact Resources for Disabled Students before requesting accommodations from the professor. Resources for Disabled Students (RDS; <http://rds.colostate.edu/home>) is located in room 100 of the General Services Building. Their phone is (970) 491-6385 (V/TDD). Students who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations.

**Attendance Policy**

Any student who misses class for any reason will be held responsible for all materials covered and all announcements made during his/her absence. If you are going to miss an in-class assignment, quiz, or exam, you must discuss this with me and have my approval beforehand. If you have a university-approved circumstance that requires flexibility in due dates, testing environments, etc., please let me know toward the beginning of the semester. Participation in official University activities, e.g., an out-of-town athletic event, or special religious observances may provide a legitimate reason for an excused absence. The student is responsible for discussing this with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. As the instructor, I reserve the right to take attendance if I feel that class attendance is starting to wane.

**Religious Accommodation**

Participation in official University activities, e.g., an out-of-town athletic event, or special religious observances may provide a legitimate reason for an excused absence. The student is responsible for discussing this with the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

**Final Exam Policy**

Final examination week is part of the regular semester. Student attendance shall be consistent with University policy. If a student has three or more final examinations (not classes) scheduled for the same day or if conflicts of examination times occur, the student may negotiate a time change with the instructors involved. If the parties involved cannot find a mutually agreeable time, the Registrar's Office indicates which courses must be changed. **Note:** The Registrar’s Office must be notified at least one week prior to Final Examination Week to allow instructors time to make appropriate accommodations. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate negotiations.

Any student who has a conflict with the examination schedule must inform the instructor as soon as possible before the examination. If an agreement cannot be reached between the instructor and student as to the appropriateness of a make-up examination the student should appeal to the department head.

<http://www.registrar.colostate.edu/final-exams>

**Academic Integrity**

The Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship takes academic integrity seriously. At minimum, academic integrity means that no one will use another's work as their own. The CSU writing center defines plagiarism this way:

*Plagiarism is the unauthorized or unacknowledged use of another person's academic or scholarly work. Done on purpose, it is cheating. Done accidentally, it is no less serious. Regardless of how it occurs, plagiarism is a theft of intellectual property and a violation of an ironclad rule demanding "credit be given where credit is due."*

Source: (Writing Guides: Understanding Plagiarism.

<http://writing.colostate.edu/guides/researchsources/understandingplagiarism/plagiarismoverview.cfm.>

Accessed, May 25, 2012)

If you plagiarize in your work you could lose credit for the plagiarized work, fail the assignment, or fail the course. Each instance of plagiarism, classroom cheating, and other types of academic dishonesty will be addressed according to the principles published in the CSU General Catalog (see page seven, column two: [http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/FrontPDF/1.6POLICIES1112f.pdf )](http://www.catalog.colostate.edu/FrontPDF/1.6POLICIES1112f.pdf%20)).

Of course, academic integrity means more than just avoiding plagiarism. It also involves doing your own reading and studying. It includes regular class attendance, careful consideration of all class materials, and engagement with the class and your fellow students. Academic integrity lies at the core of our common goal: to create an intellectually honest and rigorous community. Because academic integrity, and the personal and social integrity of which academic integrity is an integral part, is so central to our mission as students, teachers, scholars, and citizens, we will ask to you sign the CSU Honor Pledge as part of completing all of our major assignments. While you will not be required to sign the honor pledge, we will ask each of you to write and sign the following statement on your papers and exams: *"I have not given, received, or used any unauthorized assistance."*

**Title IX Information**

CSU’s Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that faculty follow CSU policy as a “mandatory reporter” of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the faculty member in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While faculty are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link below), disclosure by the student to the faculty member requires that the faculty member inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student’s safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared.

For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>.  And, the Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.

Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/title-ix-sexual-assault>

**Non-Discrimination Statement**

Colorado State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, creed, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veteran status, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or pregnancy. The University complies with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, related Executive Orders 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 402 of the Vietnam Era Veterans’ Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, as amended, The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and all civil rights laws of the State of Colorado. Accordingly, equal opportunity of employment and admission shall be extended to all persons. The University shall promote equal opportunity and treatment in employment through a positive and continuing affirmative action program for ethnic minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and veterans. The Office of Equal Opportunity is located in 101 Student Services. Source: <http://oeo.colostate.edu/non-discrimination-statement>