COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Prefix/Number: PUP 4244

Term A: May 10, 2010 – August 6, 2010

Course Title: Natural Resource Policy

Course Credit Hours: 3.0

Instructor Name and Contact Information: Mark Gillman

I will not keep scheduled office hours. However, I will be available to address any of your questions or concerns by email. My email address is markanthony@mchsi.com. I will make every effort to answer your email on the day that I receive it. On rare occasions – for example, if I am traveling and do not have Internet access – my response might get to you on the next day. I believe that it is important to maintain open communication, particularly with on-line courses. I will make every effort to maintain a dialogue with each of you.

Course Description:

This course will introduce you to the history of natural resource and environmental policy in the United States. It will consider the institutions and processes of U.S. policy making with respect to the environment and natural resource management. The course will focus on these institutions and processes within the context of the broader institutional structure of U.S. public policy at the federal, state, and local levels. In addition, the course addresses the ongoing transformations in these broader institutions and processes and considers their linkages to the formulation of public policy as it relates distinctly and directly to natural resources and the natural environment.

Required texts:

The University of West Florida bookstore will stock the following texts.

- Environmental Politics and Policy (7th Edition); Walter A. Rosenbaum, CQ Press. Washington, D.C.

- Environmental Policy: New Directions for the Twenty-First Century (7th Edition); Norman J. Vig & Michael E. Kraft, CQ Press. Washington, D.C.

These readings will be available as links in the “Content” section of the course.


Any additional required readings will be posted as links in the “Content” section of the course.

**Goals:**

Upon completion of the course, students will have developed a conceptual framework suitable for understanding natural resource and environmental policy making within the broader policy process. They will be able to recognize and analyze natural resource and environmental policy transformations and trends. And, they will be able to evaluate the implications and likely impacts of these continuing changes. Further, they will be familiar with emerging natural resource and environmental policy issues.

**About this Course:**

This course is delivered completely online. You must have consistent access to the Internet and email. You should check with the course web site on a daily basis to stay current on the course expectations and any possible updates and changes to the syllabus.

Learning at a distance may be a very different environment for many of you. You will generally set your own schedules, participate in class activities at your convenience, and work at your own pace. You may spend some additional time online during the first week while you become acclimated to the online class format and you may feel overwhelmed.

The on-line venue has its limitations, but we will try our best to work through them. I want to help you along as much as possible.

On-line courses have a higher than average withdrawal rate. There are many reasons for that. Please try your best to keep up with the readings and assignments. If you find yourself getting behind, don’t give up and stop participating. Contact me early!! I will work with you within reasonable and fair boundaries to complete the course within the timeframe of the course.

**Topics to be covered in the course include:**

1. The Context of Natural Resource Policy
2. History of Natural Resource Policy in the United States
3. The Policy Process in the United States
4. Institutions and Institutional Actors in the Policy Process in the United States
5. Natural Resource Policy: Public Lands and Land Use
7. Natural Resource Policy: Air and Water; Energy
Student Learning Outcomes - Students will be able to:

1. Summarize important contextual factors that impact natural resource policy in the United States. (Topics 1 & 8)
2. Recount a brief history of natural resource policy in the United States. (Topic 2)
3. Describe the public policy process in the United States, and illustrate the practice of incrementalism as it is exercised in the making of natural resource policy (Topic 3).
4. Describe the constitutional constraints on the policy process in the United States (Topic 3)
5. Contrast the role of government as steward to the role of government as regulator. (Topic 5)
6. List and describe the roles of the major political institutions that are active and influence the process of natural resource policy in the United States (Topic 4)
7. Define "environmental justice," and understand the concept that the costs of consuming natural resources are not necessarily distributed equitably. (Topic 4)
8. Summarize the benefit-cost debate in consideration of implementing natural resource policies. (Topic 4)
9. Distinguish the two strategies of natural resource policy implementation: the conventional “command and control” strategy from the “marketplace.” (Topic 4)
10. List and describe the roles of the major land use agencies involved in the supervision of federal land use in the United States. (Topic 5)
11. Understand the role of the Environmental Protection Agency in natural resource policy, and identify key laws administered by that agency. (Topic 6)
12. Summarize the major components of The TSCA, The RCRA, the Superfund legislation and the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996. (Topic 6)
13. Summarize the major components of the Clean Air Act and amendments to date. (Topic 7)
14. Summarize the major issues involved in the three global concerns for Natural Resource Policymaking: acid rain, ozone depletion and global warming. (Topic 8)

Method of Student Evaluation

In this course, your performance will be evaluated using two different instruments: (1) Your scores on the mid-term and final exams, and (2) Your participation in class discussion. A mid-term and a final exam will cover all of the assigned readings, and will each count for 35% of the final grade, for a total of 70%. Your contributions to the weekly discussion questions posted will account for 30% of the final grade. (The discussions are a very important component of the online venue because they come as near as possible to the exchange of ideas found in the traditional classroom.) Specific guidelines for each of the two means of assessment are described briefly below.
1. Guidelines for Mid-Term and Final Exams (Total 70% of Final Grade):

The mid-term and final exams will be comprised of true/false and multiple choice questions. Each exam will be made available online at least 3 days before it is due to be completed. Each exam must be submitted by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on the designated due date. Ground rules for taking the exams will also be provided at that time. Compliance with the ground rules will be expected, and failure to do so will be reflected in the grade.

2. Guidelines for Discussions (30% of Final Grade):

You will be expected to participate in the weekly online discussions. There will be 10 discussion threads (no more than 1 per week), and each will count for 3 points toward your final grade. Each discussion topic will be related to the readings of the respective week. The discussion topic will be provided on Monday, and you will have until Friday at 6:00 p.m. Central Time, to submit your response.

Your contribution will be available to your classmates. I urge each of you to read and consider the contribution of your classmates. Given the word limitation, you should carefully construct your discussion post such that it is concise, yet complete and well composed.
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<th>Dates</th>
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| Week #1 05/10/10 – 05/16/10 | Introduction – The Context of Natural Resource and Environmental Policy | Rosenbaum: Ch. 1  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 1 | Submit your introductory post to Discussion #1 by Friday, May 14th at 6:00 PM Central Time. |
| Week #2 05/17/10 – 05/23/10 | Making Natural Resource and Environmental Policy: The Process | Rosenbaum: Ch. 2 and Ch. 3 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, May 21st. |
| Week #3 05/24/10 – 05/30/10 | Politics and Federal Institutions (Part I): The President and Congress | Vig & Kraft: Ch. 4  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 5 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, May 28th. |
| Week #4 05/31/10 – 06/06/10 | Politics and Federal Institutions (Part II): The Courts | Vig & Kraft: Ch. 6 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, June 4th. |
| Week #5 | Policy Challenges | Rosenbaum: Ch. 4  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 7  
Bullard pp. 1-15 and pp. 19-42 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, June 11th. |
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<td>06/07/10 – 06/13/10</td>
<td>Risk assessment, environmental justice, and the role of science in environmental policy making</td>
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| Week #6 | Regulatory Economics | Rosenbaum: Ch. 5  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 9  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 10 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, June 18th. |
| 06/14/10 – 06/20/10 | The benefit-cost debate, environmental valuation, and regulatory strategies | | |
| Week #7 | MID-TERM EXAM WEEK | Submit your mid-term exam by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Sunday, June 27, 2010 | |
| 06/21/10 – 06/27/10 | Review your readings from weeks 1 through 7. The mid-term exam will cover all of these readings. | | |
| Week #8 | Public Lands and Land Use Policy in the U.S. | Rosenbaum: Ch. 9  
Vig & Kraft: Ch. 8 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, July 2nd. |
| 06/28/10 – 07/04/10 | | | |
| Week #9 | The Regulation of Air and Water Quality | Rosenbaum: Ch. 6 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, July 9th. |
| 07/05/10 – 07/11/10 | | | |
| Week #10 | The Regulation of Toxic and Hazardous Substances | Rosenbaum: Ch. 7 | | |
| 07/12/10 – 07/18/10 | | | |
| Week #11 | Policy and the Increasing Demands for Energy | Rosenbaum: Ch. 8 | Submit your post by 6:00 p.m. Central Time, on Friday, July 23rd. |
| 07/19/10 – 07/25/10 | | | |
### Expectations for Academic Conduct/Plagiarism Policy:

Academic Conduct Policy: [Web Format] | [PDF Format] | [RTF Format]

Plagiarism Policy: [Word Format] | [PDF Format] | [RTF Format]

Student Handbook: [PDF Format]

### ASSISTANCE:

Students with special needs who require specific examination-related or other course-related accommodations should contact Barbara Fitzpatrick, Director of Disabled Student Services (DSS), dss@uwf.edu, (850) 474-2387. DSS will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify any recommended accommodations.