

Natural Resource Policy and Administration NRM 3304 – Fall 2015

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Office Hours: Primary contact for this course is via the Blackboard Discussion Boards and email. However, you can email me to setup an appointment if you need additional help. General questions about material or exams should be posted to the “general questions” discussion forum for the benefit of all students. Any personal communications that you may have (i.e., questions about grades, etc.) should be emailed directly to me.

Required Text: Bean, M. J., and M. J. Rowland. 1997. The evolution of national wildlife law. Third edition. Praeger, Westport, Conn. 544pp. **This book is dated but it is still one of the best and most comprehensive books on wildlife law and natural resource administration there is.*

Catalog Description: An advanced course in land use management and policy, administrative organizations, and public relation philosophies of private, state, and federal agencies that manage natural resources on publicly and privately owned lands.

Course Objective: On completion of this course, students will have an understanding of: (1) historical and present philosophies of state, federal, and private administrative organizations that manage or influence natural resource policy; (2) political context of important legislature and acts; and (3) real-life biopolitics of managing natural resources through on-line discussions and debates on controversial issues.

Grading:

Assignments	25%
Review Questions	25%
Exam 1	20%
Exam 2	20%
Poster	10%
<hr/> TOTAL	<hr/> 100%

Scale:

90-100% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

<60% = F

Learning Units: Each Topic is grouped in Blackboard as a “learning unit”. Under each of these learning units you will have reading assignments and various written assignments (summaries, discussion board postings, review questions). Be sure to view all pages in the learning units and

submit assignments on time. If you have questions about the learning units or how to navigate Blackboard, we will be having an orientation class at the beginning of the semester.

Assignments-Summaries: Chapter summaries are due by the end of each topic week (see schedule for dates). These should be uploaded to the course website under the topic assignment. MS Word files are preferred but other programs can be used (email me if you do not have MS Word). Files should be named with the topic number and your name (example: topic1_pharveson.doc). ***No late postings will be accepted.***

Assignments-Discussion Boards: Discussion forums will be initiated by the instructor. Each student should participate in the forum with valid contributions during the week that topic is scheduled.

Review Questions: Review questions for each Topic/Chapter must be completed and submitted by the end of each topic week. ***Each student must do his/her individual work.***

Poster: You will create a poster as your final project for the class. The poster should address the mission, history, objectives, propaganda, and politics of a national/international club, society, or organization that is not a state/federal agency. What type of support do they have (monies, membership, lobbyists, etc.)? Investigate the position the group takes on some of the important conservation issues of yesterday and today. You will submit a PDF of a 4'x3' poster to Blackboard at the end of the semester (see schedule for exact due date). Each student should choose their unique topic ASAP. Topics should be confirmed with the instructor.

Exams: Exams are short-answer, listing, multiple choice, and discussion. Review questions can be found for most topics (test questions will come from these review questions). Exams will be given in the RAS computer lab – room 126 (see schedule for dates). An announcement will be posted with more information.

Accessibility Services: It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodations because of physical, mental, or learning disability please contact the ADA Coordinator in Counseling and Accessibility Services: located in the Ferguson Hall 112, (432) 837-8203.

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should submit online assignments through Blackboard, which require secure login information to verify students' identities and to protect students' information. The procedures for filing a student complaint are included in the student handbook. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website.

Additional Outcome Objectives as Required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools:

Program Learning Outcomes for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management

The graduating student will demonstrate that he/she is able to:

1. Identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.
4. Conduct range and wildlife inventories in a team setting.
5. Apply knowledge about elements of an ecosystem into an appropriate conservation management plan.

NRM3304 – Natural Resource Management Policy and Administration Fall 2015 - **Tentative** Schedule

Week	Topic Dates* Or Meeting Date	Topic (Book Chapter)
1	8/24-8/30 (due on Sun)	Topic 1: Introduction to Natural Resource Policy and Administration Web Course.
	8/28 @ RAS126 Fri 2pm	Orientation on using Blackboard (RAS computer lab) – not mandatory
2	8/31-9/6	Topic 2: Wildlife Ownership
3	9/7-9/13	Topic 3: Wildlife and Commerce
4	9/14-9/20	Topic 4: Migratory Birds
5	9/21-9/27	Topic 5: Marine Mammals
6	9/28-10/4	Topic 6: Ocean Fish
7	10/5-10/11	Topic 7: Endangered Species
	10/9 in RAS126 Fri - 2pm or 3pm	EXAM 1 (Topics 1-7) - mandatory <i>Students can choose to take exam at either time.</i>
8	10/12-10/18	Topic 8: National Wildlife Refuge System
9	10/19-10/25	Topic 9: National Forests
10	10/26-11/1	Topic 10: Public Lands and Grazing
11	11/2-11/8	Topic 11: Wildlife and Water
12	11/9-11/15	Topic 12: Private Lands
13	11/16-11/22	Topic 13: Native Americans
14	11/23-11/29	Topic 14: International Laws
15	11/30-12/6	NGO Poster
	12/3 in RAS126 Thurs 2pm or 3pm	EXAM 2 (Topics 8-14) - mandatory <i>Students can choose to take exam at either time.</i>

*The date assigned is the week that you should work on each respective topic. You will have 1 week to complete all readings and assignments for each topic (Monday-Sunday). Each topic should be completed in the week it is assigned and all assignments are due by Sunday at Midnight. In case of technical problems with Blackboard on the weekend, you have a short grace period where I will still accept submissions until Noon on Monday. **Anything submitted after the grace period will receive and automatic 0.** Summaries and discussion board postings will be expected during the week they are assigned. Late postings to the discussion board will not be accepted. It is important to stick with the schedule so you do not get behind. Late work will be penalized on a daily basis.

On the dates in **RED** we will meet in person. Changes to the schedule will be posted in Blackboard under Announcements and on the schedule under the Syllabus/Schedule link. If you cannot attend the designated dates in red, you **MUST** make arrangements with me **PRIOR** to that date. Exception: It is NOT mandatory for you to attend the orientation, however, it is recommended if you are not familiar with using Blackboard.