

NRM 3304 – Fall 2016
Natural Resource Policy and Administration
Dept. Natural Resource Management, Sul Ross State University

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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: Freyfogle, E. T., and D. D. Goble. 2009. *Wildlife Law: A Primer*. Island Press, Washington D.C., USA. ISBN: 978-1559639767
This is available as a free ebook through the Sul Ross library. See Blackboard for more details.

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 especially as it relates to wildlife; (2) political context of important legislature and acts; and (3) the current biopolitics of managing natural resources through the review of popular news and magazine articles.

Grading:

Assignments	70%
Midterm Journal Project	15%
Final Journal Project	15%
<hr/> TOTAL	<hr/> 100%

Scale:

90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
<60% = F

Weekly Assignments: The course is structured into 15 Weekly Topics. Each week has a different set of assignments and readings that are available as links in your menu in Blackboard. Weekly assignments will consist of readings, review questions, and/or summaries. All assignments are due by the end of each topic week (see schedule for dates). Assignments should be uploaded to the course website under each assignment link. 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 week number and your name (example: week1_pharveson.doc). ***No late postings will be accepted. Each student must do his/her individual work (you may not copy other students, the textbook, or information from the internet).***

Journal: Each student will create a journal that contains articles relevant to each week's topics. The journal can be accessed under the "journal" menu tab in Blackboard. Students will find a news or magazine article related to that week's topic and post it as a journal entry. One article is required for each week (except for weeks 8 and 15 when no topics are covered). Each article will be summarized in the journal entry by the student. More details are available in Blackboard. The journal will be graded as your midterm journal project (end of week 8) and as your final journal project (end of week 15). Please start this project early!

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes copying, sharing, or obtaining information from an unauthorized source, attempting to take credit for the intellectual work of another person, falsifying information, and giving or receiving information about a test, quiz, or assignment to another student. Copying information verbatim from a book, another paper, or the internet is also plagiarism, instead you must paraphrase or state the information in your own words. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive no credit (0) for work done and/or may be penalized in accordance with published university rules. Multiple offenses will result in the expulsion from the class with the grade of F.

Accessibility Services: Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Mary Schwartz, M. Ed., L.P.C., in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8691. E-mail: mschwartz@sulross.edu.

Distance Education Statement: Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as Smarthinking, library resources, such as online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website. Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires 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:

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for the B.S. in Natural Resource Management

1. Students will be able to identify species of wildland plants and wildlife common to the western United States and describe their natural history.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the elements of an ecosystem.
3. Students will be able to communicate about natural resources and conservation both verbally and in writing.

(See next page for class schedule)

NRM 3304 – Fall 2016 Tentative Schedule

Week	Beginning date	End (due) date*	Topic Covered
1	22-Aug	28-Aug	Chapter 1. The Basics
2	29-Aug	4-Sep	Chapter 2. State Ownership and the Public Interest
3	5-Sep	11-Sep	Chapter 3. Capturing and Owning
4	12-Sep	18-Sep	Chapter 4. Wildlife on Private Land
5	19-Sep	25-Sep	Chapter 5. Inland Fisheries
6	26-Sep	2-Oct	Chapter 6. The Constitutional Framework
7	3-Oct	9-Oct	Chapter 7. State Game Laws and Liability for Harm
8	10-Oct	16-Oct	MIDTERM JOURNAL PROJECT DUE
9	17-Oct	23-Oct	Chapter 8. Indian Tribal Rights
10	24-Oct	30-Oct	Chapter 9. Key Federal Statutes
11	31-Oct	6-Nov	Chapter 10. Wildlife on Federal Land
12	7-Nov	13-Nov	Chapter 11. The Endangered Species Act: Species Listing and Critical Habitat
13	14-Nov	20-Nov	Chapter 12. The Endangered Species Act: Protections
14	21-Nov	27-Nov	Chapter 13. Biodiversity at the Landscape Scale/thanksgiving
15	28-Nov	4-Dec	FINAL JOURNAL PROJECT DUE

*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.** Exceptions may be made but only under extraordinary circumstances that must be discussed with and approved by the instructor.

Changes to the schedule will be posted in Blackboard under Announcements and on the schedule under the Syllabus & Schedule menu link.

We have no mandatory face-to-face meetings. However, if you are having difficulty in class or need assistance using Blackboard or creating your Journal, please contact me so we can meet.