

**Public Lands Law and Policy
NRM 204, 3 Credits
Spring Semester 2008
Arctic Health, Room 183
Tuesday & Thursday, 2:00-3:30**

Syllabus

Instructor: Julie Lurman Joly
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364 O'Neill
Office Hours: by appointment
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If you have a physical or learning disability, please advise me in writing of any special consideration necessary by the beginning of the second class. I will do everything possible to accommodate you in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

This class covers the major laws and policies governing the management of federal public lands. The goals of the course are to gain an understanding of the agencies that manage the different land units and the laws which animate their management strategies. Additionally, we will cover important issues that affect public lands in the Western United States and Alaska.

Class Schedule

Thursday January 24

1. First Day of Class - Course Introduction

Tuesday January 29

2. The Philosophy of Public Land
 - Thinking about natural resources [Wilkinson preface and 1-27]
 - Wise Use v. Preservation (Pinchot v. Muir) [Reading packet 1-15]

Thursday January 31- Tuesday February 5

3. The National Forests
 - Organic Act and Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act (MUSY) [Reading packet 19-27; Wilkinson 120-142]
 - National Forest Management Act and Forest Management Planning [Wilkinson 142-174]

Thursday February 7- Tuesday February 12

4. The Bureau of Land Management
 - Taylor Grazing Act and Mining Law of 1872 [Wilkinson 29-50, 75-98]
 - Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) [Wilkinson 50-74, 98-113]

Thursday February 14

5. Wild and Scenic Rivers
 - Wild and Scenic Rivers Act [Reading packet 37-44]

Tuesday February 19- Thursday February 21

6. The National Park Service
 - National Parks Organic Act [Reading packet 45-49]
 - Antiquities Act [Reading packet 50-59]

Tuesday February 26- Thursday February 28

7. Wildlife Refuges [Reading packet 60-81]
 - National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 and Refuge Recreation Act
 - 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act and "Compatibility"

Tuesday March 4- Thursday March 6

8. Wilderness
 - The Preservation Ethic [Reading packet 82-139]
 - The Wilderness Act [Reading packet 140-170]

Tuesday March 11- Thursday March 13

Spring Break

Tuesday March 18

Midterm

Thursday March 20

9. Migratory Birds
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act [Reading packet 171-179]
 - Constitutional Treaty Power [Reading packet 180-185]

Tuesday March 25- Thursday March 27

10. Public Lands and Land Law in Alaska
- Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) [Reading packet 186-200]
 - Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) [Reading packet 207-221]

Tuesday April 1- Thursday April 3

11. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [Reading packet 222-243]
- About NEPA
 - When must an EIS be prepared?
 - How to tell if the EIS is adequate?
 - Does NEPA work?

Tuesday April 8

12. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) [Reading packet 244-257]
- About MMPA
 - Management Principles
 - Tuna-Dolphin Conflict

Thursday April 10- Tuesday April 15

13. Water Law
- Riparian Rights v. Prior Appropriations [Reading packet 265-287]
 - Damming the West [Wilkinson 219-292]
 - Water Scarcity [handout]

Thursday April 17- Tuesday April 22- Thursday April 24

14. Endangered Species Act (ESA) [Reading packet 290-327]
- Why Should We Save the Endangered?
 - About the ESA
 - Tellico Dam, the Snail Darter, and the God Squad

Tuesday April 29

In Class Review for Final

Thursday May 1

In Class Final Exam

Course Requirements and Grading:

Textbooks:

There is a required reading packet, as well as a text book, that you must purchase at the campus book store. The text is *Crossing the Next Meridian: Land, Water, and the Future of the West*, by Charles F. Wilkinson (Island Press, Washington DC, 1992). In the syllabus, readings in the text will be denoted as “Wilkinson” and those in the reading packet as “Reading packet.”

Exams:

There will be one mid term exam and one final exam, the final exam is not cumulative. Each exam will account for 30% of your total final grade. Exams will take place in class and will be **closed book**. Exam questions will be drawn from the required readings, lectures, and the classroom discussions. A close understanding of the course material is important as exam questions may require you to apply information you learned in class to new situations, rote memorization will often not be enough to get an A. Exams will include essay and short answer questions. Please make sure that you write legibly as illegible answers may not be graded. There will be no makeup exams, if you are unable to take the exam on the date scheduled and you have a good reason, please see me as soon as possible.

Assignments and Quizzes:

There will be 2-4 take home assignments and 2-4 quizzes worth a total of 25% of your final grade.

Assignments will be **open note**, and may require additional research. You may not work together. Assignments must be typed and must be handed in on time. Late work will lose 10% of the total available points each day it is late.

Quizzes will be in-class, pop quizzes. They will be open note and will take place in the first 15 minutes of the class period, so timeliness is crucial. Missed quizzes cannot be made up.

Attendance, Preparation, and Class Participation:

Attendance and proper preparation for each class session are mandatory. Regular class participation is strongly encouraged and will impact your grade. Together these three components will make up 15% of your final grade.

Grades:

This course is graded with a letter grade corresponding to the numerical score you receive and which will be based on the UAF grading system. This class will use +/- grades.

Extra Help:

If you find, at any time during the semester, that you are having trouble understanding the concepts discussed in class, please see me before you fall behind. I am happy to provide additional explanations and other help to any student who is interested.

Good luck to each of you this semester.