

**Public Lands Law and Policy
NRM 204, 3 Credits
Spring Semester 2016
Irving 201
Tuesday & Thursday, 8:00-9:30**

Instructor: Julie Lurman Joly
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Office Hours: by appointment (via google hangouts)
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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 and resources. The goals of the course are to gain an understanding of the agencies that manage the different land units and resources 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 14

1. Course Introduction

Tuesday January 19

2. The Philosophy of Public Land
 - Thinking about natural resources [Wilkinson preface and 1-27]
 - Wise Use v. Preservation (Pinchot v. Muir) [Reading packet 2-16]

Thursday January 21- Tuesday January 26

2. The National Forests
 - Organic Act and Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act (MUSY) [Reading packet 17-25; Wilkinson 120-142]
 - National Forest Management Act and Forest Management Planning [Wilkinson 142-174]

Thursday January 28- Tuesday February 2

3. 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 4

4. Wild and Scenic Rivers
 - Wild and Scenic Rivers Act [Reading packet 26-33]

Tuesday February 9- Thursday February 11

5. The National Park Service
 - National Parks Organic Act [Reading packet 34-38]
 - Antiquities Act [Reading packet 39-48]

Tuesday February 16- Thursday February 18

6. Wildlife Refuges [Reading packet 49-70]
 - National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 and Refuge Recreation Act
 - 1997 National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act and "Compatibility"

Tuesday February 23- Thursday February 25

7. Wilderness
 - The Preservation Ethic [Reading packet 71-128]
 - The Wilderness Act [Reading packet 129-159]

Tuesday March 1

Review for midterm

Thursday March 3

Midterm

Tuesday March 8- Thursday March 10

8. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) [Reading packet 160-181]
 - About NEPA
 - When must an EIS be prepared?

- How to tell if the EIS is adequate?
- Does NEPA work?

Tuesday March 15- Thursday March 17
Spring Break

Tuesday March 22- Thursday March 24

- Public Lands and Land Law in Alaska
 - Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) [Reading packet 182-197]
 - Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) [Reading packet 198-212]

Tuesday March 29

- Migratory Birds
 - Migratory Bird Treaty Act [Reading packet 213-221]
 - Constitutional Treaty Power [Reading packet 222-227]

Thursday March 31

- Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) [Reading packet 228-241]
 - About MMPA
 - Management Principles
 - Tuna-Dolphin Conflict
 - Navy Sonar Issue

Tuesday April 5- Thursday April 7- Tuesday April 12

- Endangered Species Act (ESA) [Reading packet 242-275]
 - Why Should We Save the Endangered?
 - About the ESA
 - Tellico Dam, the Snail Darter, and the God Squad

Thursday April 14- Tuesday April 19

- Water Law
 - Riparian Rights v. Prior Appropriations [Reading packet 276-295]
 - Damming the West [Wilkinson 219-292]
 - Water Scarcity [handout]

Thursday April 21

- Coastal Zone Management
 - Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) [Reading Packet 296-303]

Tuesday April 26

Review for Final

Thursday April 28

In Class Final Exam

Course Requirements and Grading:

Textbooks:

There is a required reading packet which will be available as a pdf on Blackboard, and a text book that you must purchase entitled *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” (the syllabus refers to the pdf page numbers, not the page numbers printed on the pages).

Exams:

There will be one midterm 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:

There will be 6-8 homework assignments worth a total of 30% of your grade. The lowest assignment grade will be dropped.

Assignments will be **open note**, and may require additional outside research. You may not work together, except to prepare for in-class debates. Assignments must be typed, must include in-text citations and a literature cited section (when outside references are used) and must be handed in **on Blackboard** by the start of class on the day on which they are due. Late work will lose 10% of the total available points each day it is late.

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 10% of your final grade.

Grades:

This course is graded with a letter grade corresponding to the numerical score you receive. 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.

Technology Policy: Use of laptops, phones, tablets, and other devices are prohibited during class unless specifically permitted by the instructors.

Good luck to each of you this semester.