

# NRM 430 Syllabus, fall 2023

TITLE: Resource Management Planning

NUMBER: NRM 430

CREDITS: 3

PREREQUISITES: Senior standing

LOCATION: O'Neill 305, [Zoom](#) (passcode "planning!")

MEETING TIME: TR 9:45 – 11:15 a.m.

COURSE TYPE: Lecture

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. David W. Valentine

OFFICE LOCATION: O'Neill 309

OFFICE HOURS: TR 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. and by [appointment](#)

TELEPHONE: (907) 474-7614

EMAIL ADDRESS: [dvalentine@alaska.edu](mailto:dvalentine@alaska.edu)

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

### Catalog description

Application of planning and conflict resolution principles to natural resources management. Examines plans prepared in response to current Alaska resource disputes, including wolf, brown bear, boreal forest and recreation river plans. Includes public involvement, consensus building, the basic steps in the planning process and resource dispute simulations. Review resource management plans and develop plans for a local resource management issue.

### Additional course description

The course will examine the complexity of resource management planning; steps to the planning process such as identifying problems, developing measurable objectives, evaluating solutions, and selecting a final solution; how scale/scope impacts the planning process; and differences in planning across federal and state agencies.

## COURSE GOALS

The course will provide students with knowledge of the following topics:

- Steps/best practices in the planning process
- Developing indicators and standards to evaluate whether planning goals are being met
- Planning protocol followed by specific agencies

## STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will have acquired knowledge/skills to:

- Speak the language of a natural resource planner
  - Adapt to the planning protocol of myriad agencies
  - Evaluate a resource management plan
  - Explain the differences in the planning protocol of different land management agencies
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## **COURSE READINGS/MATERIALS**

Required text: Yoe, C. (2013). *Introduction to natural resource planning*. New York: CRC Press.

Additional readings will be assigned, and are noted in the class schedule. These readings will be posted to Canvas.

## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE**

Students must have regular access to a computer and the Internet to access materials in Canvas. Students will be expected to download course material as well as upload assignments.

## **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS**

The class consists of 3 credits of lecture (i.e., 3 hours per week). The lecture sections will be based on course readings; but will rely on class discussion. Please come to class having read the material and be prepared to discuss the material.

The first three quarters of the class will follow material from the text. Lectures will recap the material, but it is expected you have read the material before class. Thus, the majority of the lecture will be devoted to 1) discussing the points made in the text (i.e., class discussion), and 2) applying the principles discussed in the book to the case study developed for the in-class exercises (i.e., listed in syllabus as in-class exercise).

The remaining class time will be spent examining the planning process of different agencies and examining case studies.

There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam. Both exams are open book; the final exam will consist of an evaluation of a management plan.

A folder with completed plans will be posted to Canvas. We will examine those plans with respect to the principles presented in the text.

## **COURSE POLICIES**

This course will adhere to the following policies.

- Assignments will be penalized 10% per day late up to 50%, unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Due dates for assignments can be adjusted and exams can be rescheduled/made up for legitimate reasons (illness, family issues, UAF athletic travel, conference travel) if prior arrangements are made. If absolutely unforeseen circumstances occur and prior arrangements have not been made, exceptions might be granted on a case by case basis.
- You are expected to attend all lectures, complete all assignments, and participate in class discussions.

## **EVALUATION POLICIES**

Plus and minus grades will be used. Grades will not be curved. The components of the final grade and their contribution to the overall grade are as follows. Note, the weights will be assigned to

score within each component of the grade; thus, the total points are not reflective of the component's contribution to the final score.

Weight for final grade		Requirements for letter grade		
Assignments	30%	A + > 96 <sup>2</sup>	C+ 77 to 79	F < 60
In-class exercises	45%	A 93 to 96	C 73 to 76	
Class participation <sup>1</sup>	5%	A- 90 to 92	C- 70 to 72	
Exams	20%	B+ 87 to 89	D+ 67 to 69	
		B 83 to 86	D 63 to 66	
		B- 80 to 82	D- 60 to 62	

<sup>1</sup>Class participation will reflect attendance and contribution to the class discussions, including in-class exercises. Class participation will be assessed by the instructor's assessment of participation and by students' evaluation of contribution to group assignments.

<sup>2</sup>These numbers represent percentages.

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty is punishable by removal from the course and a grade of "F." For more information go to [Student Code of Conduct](#).

## EXPLANATION OF NB/I/W GRADES

**This course adheres to the UAF regarding the granting of NB Grades** *The NB grade is for use only in situations in which the instructor has No Basis upon which to assign a grade. In general, the NB grade will not be granted.*

**Your instructor follows the University of Alaska Fairbanks Incomplete Grade Policy:**

"The letter "I" (Incomplete) is a temporary grade used to indicate that the student has satisfactorily completed (C or better) the majority of work in a course but for personal reasons beyond the student's control, such as sickness, he has not been able to complete the course during the regular semester. Negligence or indifference are not acceptable reasons for an "I" grade." Successful, timely completion of this course depends on committing yourself early and maintaining your effort. Failure to submit assignments in a timely manner may result in faculty-initiated Withdrawal from the course, which can result in a **W** on your transcript.

## INSTRUCTOR RESPONSE TIME

If you email me with a question during weekday daytime hours I will try to reply promptly. However, I have meetings and other constraints that might delay my response time. Although I do check email and respond to students in the evening and over the weekend, occasionally I purposely do not check email during those times. If I know I will have limited contact during the week (travel, other commitments), I will let you know. My goal is to grade assignments and exams within a week.

## EFFORT AND STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

This is a 3 credit lecture course. The weekly contact hours and student effort requirements for a traditional face to face class are 3 hours of lecture and 6 hours of student work outside of the lecture/lab (9 total hours per week).

## COURSE CALENDAR

The course calendar will evolve as we cover the topics. The time spent on any one topic will be adjusted based on class discussion.

Week	Date	Reading	Topics
1	8/29	Yoe Ch. 1	Course Introduction
	8/31	Yoe Ch. 2	Introduction to Planning & Wicked Problems Scenario for in-class exercises
2	9/5	Yoe Ch. 3	The Planning Process Assignment 1: Comparison of plans
	9/7	Yoe Ch. 4	Decision Context In class exercise 1: Identify problems, opportunities, and constraints
3	9/12		Decision Context (Cont.) In-class exercise 2: Develop criteria
	9/14	Yoe Ch. 5	Gather Evidence Introduction to scenarios
4	9/19		Gather Evidence (Cont.) In-class exercise 3: Information gaps, plan for gathering evidence, scenarios
	9/21		Eastern Tanana Area Plan (tentative; speaker confirmed, but not specific date) Guest Speaker Colin Craven, Natural Resource Specialist, Land Conveyance Section, Division on Mining, Land and Water, AK DNR, + others
5	9/26	Yoe Ch. 10	Public Involvement In-class exercise 4: Develop public involvement plan
	9/28	Yoe Ch. 6	Formulate Solutions
6	10/3		Formulate Solutions (Cont.) Management measures Assignment 2: Management measures & alternatives
	10/5	Yoe Ch. 12	Uncertainty
7	10/10		Uncertainty (Cont.) In-class exercise 5: Identify sources of uncertainty Assignment 3: NEPA
	10/12		Fairbanks North Star Borough Recreational Trails Plan 2022 – case study
8	10/17	TBA	National Environmental Policy Act and Planning Assignment 3 due

	10/19		Work on mid-term exam (no class) Mid-term exam due by 10/20 @ 5 p.m.
9	10/24	Yoe Ch. 13	Scenario Planning Assignment 4: Evaluation of scenario planning case study
	10/26		Scenario Planning: Guest speaker Nancy Fresco, SNAP Network Coordinator, CIFAR Associate Director, Assistant Professor, UAF
10	10/31		Scenario Planning (Cont.) In-class exercise 6: Presentation of scenarios
	11/2		Planning in the FNSB Guest speaker Daniel Welch, Natural Resources Develop Manager, Division of Natural Resources Development, Fairbanks North Star Borough
11	11/7	Yoe Ch. 7	Evaluate Solutions Assignment 5: Evaluation criteria and without condition scenarios
	11/9		Evaluate Solutions In-class exercise 7: Evaluation of solutions Assignment 6: Comparing plans - Note due 4/6
12	11/14	Yoe Ch. 8 & 9	Compare Solutions & Make Decision In-class exercise 8: AHP & weighting criteria
	11/16	TBA	Planning in the DOT: guest speaker Chel Ethun, Department of Transportation, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Climate Policy
13	11/21		OPEN, catch up
	11/23		THANKSGIVING--NO CLASS
14	11/28	TBA	Central Yukon Resource Management Plan
	11/30		Central Yukon Resource Management Plan (cont.)
15	12/5	TBA	Denali Back Country Management Plan Assignment 7: Planning in federal agencies
	12/7		Federal Agency case Study TBD
	12/14		Final exam period 10:15 a.m to 12:15 p.m. (Take home due 12/15 at noon)

**Student protections statement:** UAF embraces and grows a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion, and caring. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX). Faculty members are designated as responsible employees which means they are required to report sexual misconduct. Graduate teaching assistants do not share the same reporting obligations. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go to the following site: <https://catalog.uaf.edu/academics-regulations/students-rights-responsibilities/>.

**Disability services statement:** I will work with the Office of Disability Services to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

**ASUAF advocacy statement:** The Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, the student government of UAF, offers advocacy services to students who feel they are facing issues with staff, faculty, and/or other students specifically if these issues are hindering the ability of the student to succeed in their academics or go about their lives at the university. Students who wish to utilize these services can contact the Student Advocacy Director by visiting the ASUAF office or emailing [asuaf.office@alaska.edu](mailto:asuaf.office@alaska.edu).

### **Student Academic Support:**

- Speaking Center (907-474-5470, [uaf-speakingcenter@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-speakingcenter@alaska.edu), Gruening 507)
- Writing Center (907-474-5314, [uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-writing-center@alaska.edu), Gruening 8th floor)
- UAF Math Services, [uaf-traccloud@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-traccloud@alaska.edu), Chapman Building (for math fee paying students only)
- Developmental Math Lab, Gruening 406
- The Debbie Moses Learning Center at CTC (907-455-2860, 604 Barnette St, Room 120, <https://www.ctc.uaf.edu/student-services/student-success-center/>)
- For more information and resources, please see the Academic Advising Resource List ([https://www.uaf.edu/advising/lr/SKM\\_364e19011717281.pdf](https://www.uaf.edu/advising/lr/SKM_364e19011717281.pdf))

### **Student Resources:**

- Disability Services (907-474-5655, [uaf-disability-services@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-disability-services@alaska.edu), Whitaker 208)
- Student Health & Counseling [**6 free counseling sessions**] (907-474-7043, <https://www.uaf.edu/chc/appointments.php>, Gruening 215)
- Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities (907-474-7317, [uaf-studentrights@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-studentrights@alaska.edu), Eielson 110)
  - Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (ASUAF) or ASUAF Student Government (907-474-7355, [asuaf.office@alaska.edu](mailto:asuaf.office@alaska.edu), Wood Center 119)

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[uaf-deo@alaska.edu](mailto:uaf-deo@alaska.edu)

### **University Sponsored Off-Campus Programs and Research Activities**

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1. UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination

against any individual: [www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination](http://www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination).

2. Incidents can be reported to your university's Equity and Compliance office (listed below) or online reporting portal. University of Alaska takes immediate, effective, and appropriate action to respond to reported acts of discrimination and harassment.
  3. There are supportive measures available to individuals that may have experienced discrimination.
  4. University of Alaska's Board of Regents' Policy & University Regulations (UA BoR P&R) 01.02.020 Nondiscrimination and 01.04 Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination Under Title IX, go to: <http://alaska.edu/bor/policy-regulations/>.
  5. UA BoR P&R apply at all university owned or operated sites, university sanctioned events, clinical sites and during all academic or research related travel that are university sponsored.
- For further information on your rights and resources [click here](#).