

RENr 375
CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FALL 2009

Professor

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COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this course are to:

- (1) Identify basic economic, legal, political, social and ecological principles related to environmental resource management.
- (2) Apply these principles in the allocation, protection and management of environmental resources.
- (3) Identify and evaluate alternatives to proposed environmental resource management decisions.

COURSE FORMAT

The class is taught following a lecture and discussion format. Students should be familiar with the material to be covered during a class session and *be prepared to discuss it in class*. Power point presentations will be posted on the class website.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Text: Miller, Living in the Environment, 15th Ed. Wadsworth, Inc. 2007.

Course Reader: NOTES & QUOTES on University and Nagle St., College Station

GRADING

Course grades will be based on the following:

(1) Exam #1 - - - Sept 24	100 points
(2) Exam #2 - - - October 22	100 points
(3) Exam #3 - - - Nov 19	100 points
(4) Comprehensive Final - - Dec 11	<u>100 points</u>
TOTAL	400 points

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade:

- A**= 90-100 % of total possible points
- B**= 80-89 % of total possible points
- C**= 70-79 % of total possible points
- D**= 60-69 % of total possible points
- F**= 59 % or less of total possible points.

Exams

Exams will be multiple choice. **The final exam will be comprehensive.** Scantrons will be provided. You may bring a one page (double sided 8 1/2 x 11) crib sheet to the exam.

Bonus Quizzes

A number of unannounced bonus quizzes will be given during the semester to determine how well you are grasping the topics discussed in class and in the readings. A total of 25 bonus points may be earned from these quizzes.

OTHER COURSE TERMS

Scholastic Dishonesty

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”

Please see the Honor Code at <http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor>

Scholastic dishonesty will not be tolerated and the professor will take the strongest possible sanctions. Students should consult the University regulations for the penalties and procedures in scholastic dishonesty cases.

Class Attendance

It is your responsibility to attend class and to complete all assignments. There is a strong correlation between good grades and attendance. Student grades generally suffer from poor attendance.

Missing an Exam

Absences from exams will be authorized for reasons deemed sufficient by the professor, or the University, based on the University regulations. You are responsible for providing, in a timely manner, evidence to substantiate the reason for any absence. When an absence is excused you will have an opportunity to make up the exam. ***If you are going to miss an exam, please contact me via e-mail ahead of the designated exam time – even if it is an excused absence.***

Individual Disabling Conditions

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodations for their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities in Cain Hall, RM B118 or call 845-1637.

Extra Credit Work

Extra credit work will not be accepted.

WEB SITE

The syllabus, important exam dates and power point presentations are posted on a class website. You can access the course website through: <http://www.tamu.edu/rakwater/>
Click on the Teaching Category to reach RENR 375.

COURSE OUTLINE–Fall 2009

<u>DATE</u>		<u>READINGS</u>
<i>PART I. CONCEPTS</i>		
Sept 1	Introduction/ Sustainability concepts	Chapter 1
Sept 3	Historical Development	Supplement 5 (Textbook)
Sept 8	Legal System & Resources	<i>Outside reader</i>
Sept 10	Economics & Resources	Chapter 24
<i>PART II. CLIMATE CHANGE</i>		
Sept 15	Climate Change: the science	pages 101-105/ Chapter 20
Sept 17	Climate change: physical consequences	Lecture power point
Sept 22	Climate change: biological consequences	Lecture power point
<i>Sept 24</i>	<i>Exam # 1</i>	
<i>PART III. BIODIVERSITY</i>		
Sept 29	Sustainability and threats	Lecture power point
Oct 1	Aquatic and marine biodiversity	Chapter 12
Oct 6	Species specific approaches	Chapter 11
Oct 8	Ecosystems approaches	Chapter 10
Oct 13	Ecotourism	Lecture power point
Oct 15	National parks, refuges and preserves	pp 21–215, 600-602
Oct 20	Texas biodiversity	<i>Outside Reader</i>
<i>Oct 22</i>	<i>Exam #2</i>	
<i>PART IV. WATER RESOURCES</i>		
Oct 27	Water concepts and issues	Chapter 14
Oct 29	Water management options	Chapter 14

Nov 3 Texas water uses, sources and challenges *Outside Reader*
Nov 5 Water use & conservation in College Station Lecture power point
Nov 10 Water allocation rules *Outside reader*
Nov 12 Water pollution sources and regulations Chapter 21
Nov 17 Tour College Station wastewater plant

Nov 19 Exam #3

PART V. WASTE DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING

Nov 24 Solid waste and disposal Chapter 22

Nov 26 Thanksgiving

Dec 1 Recycling in College Station & TAMU Lecture power point

PART VI. ENERGY SOURCES AND USES

Dec 3 U.S. energy resources, uses Chapter 16

Dec 8 Developing an energy plan Chapter 17

Dec 9-10 Reading days

FINAL EXAM Dec 11, 12:30-2:30