Instructor:

Professor Christopher Grobbel
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Online class materials available on D2L
Class Schedule: 6:00 pm – 7:50 pm Tuesdays
152 Natural Resources Building

Office Hours:
Room 311A Natural Resources Building, MSU Main Campus
Wednesdays 1 pm to 3 pm, and by appointment

Course Outcomes:

Students will be able to:
1. Identify the essential components and principles of environmental and natural resources law.
2. Identify and apply a multifaceted approach to understanding private property rights, environmental and natural resources policy and regulation.
3. Develop and apply critical thinking and analysis skills to evaluate the credibility of sustainability policy positions and scientific arguments.
4. Use information technologies in their formal and informal learning.
5. Consider the importance of the legal and regulatory framework in undertaking environmental planning and successful implementing environmental management projects/programs.
6. Apply legal systems thinking approaches in environmental and natural resources disputes, policy, use and management.

Course Description:

3 credits, Lecture/Recitation/Discussion 3 hours/week.

Week 1 – Introduction

Week 2 – Legal foundations of Environmental & Natural Resources regulation


Week 3 – Legal foundations of Environmental & Natural Resources regulation (continued)


Week 4 – Law of Inland Waters


Week 5 – Great Lakes Water Law


Week 6 – Western Water Law


Week 7 — Mid-term Exam (#1)

7. October 20, 2015 - Exam #1 (100 Points Possible).

Week 8 – Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act


Week 9 – Contamination Site Investigation, Remediation and Redevelopment

Week 10 – Contamination Investigation Remediation and Redevelopment (continued)


Week 11 – Critical Dunes and High Risk Erosion Areas


Week 12 – Septic Systems and Septage Hauling and Disposal


Week 13 – Part 17: Michigan Environmental Protection Act (Part 1)


Week 14 – National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)


Week 15- Final Exam Week

15. Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm – Exam #2 (100 Points Possible)

Exams:

No make-up exams will be scheduled in the event of an unexcused absence from class during an examination period. A written statement from a doctor will be required if medical reasons exist for absence from an examination period. In the event that absence during an examination exists, alternative means of grading student progress may be utilized.

Class Participation:

Class participation will be graded on the basis of student courtesy, engagement, scholarship, professionalism and the students’ demonstration of ability to integrate course concepts in questions asked
of speakers and/or the course instructor.

Reading Assignments:

No text is required for CSUS 465: Environmental and Natural Resources Law. Students are expected to come to class having read materials posted for each session on D2L in advance of each session. Please see the instructor if alternative or additional accommodations are needed for access to course materials.

Grading:

Grading for this course will be on the basis of a point system as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points:</th>
<th>250 Total Possible:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Exam</td>
<td>100 points possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Exam</td>
<td>100 points possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>50 points possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course grading: 250 points possible (may vary depending of class performance).

- 4.0 250 - 225 points
- 3.5 224 - 200 points
- 3.0 219 - 175 points
- 2.5 174 - 150 points
- 2.0 149 - 125 points
- 1.5 124 - 100 points
- 1.0 99 - 75 points
- 0.0 Less than 75 points

Important Dates:

- Monday, 9/7/15 - University closed – Labor Day Holiday
- Thursday 11/26/15 & Friday 11/27/15 - Thanksgiving break (no class, university closed)
- 12/14/15-12/18/15 - Final exams week

Academic Misconduct:

Article 2.III.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states that “the student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the Department of CSUS adheres to the polices and academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades: the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades: and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or MSU website: www.msu.edu.

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course reading assignments, participate in class discussions and exams without assistance from any source. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also http://www.msu.ed/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html). There will be no warnings – the maximum sanction allowed under University policy will occur on the first offense.
**Accommodations:**

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rpcd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, will be issued a verified individual services accommodation (“RISA”) form. Please present this form to Dr. Grobbel at the start of the semester and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (i.e., exam date, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

**Drops and Adds:**

The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to change from credit to non-credit or visitor is September 9, 2015. The last day to drop this course with a 100 percent refund and no grade reported is September 28, 2015. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify that you have added or dropped this course.

**Commercialized Lecture Notes:**

Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

**Attendance:**

Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. This course follows the General University Attendance Policy. If you miss a class due to a Special Consideration Absence as defined by University Policy, your class participation grade from those excused absences days will be the average of your earned participation grades.

**Disruptive Behavior:**

Article 2.III.B.4 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states, “The student’s behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned.” Article 2.IIIB.10 of the AFR states that “The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility.” General Student Regulation 5.02 states, “No student shall …interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes…) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action though the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

**Campus Emergencies:**

If an emergency arises in this classroom, building or vicinity, your instructor will inform you of actions to follow to enhance your safety. As a student in this class, you are responsible for knowing the location of the nearest emergency evacuation route or shelter. These directions appear on the maps posted on the walls throughout the Natural Resources Building. If police or university officials order an evacuation of the classroom or building, follow the posted emergency route in an orderly manner and assist those who might need help in reaching a barrier-free exit or shelter. To receive emergency messages, set your cellular phone on silent mode when you enter this classroom. If you observe or receive an emergency
alert, immediately and calmly inform your instructor. (See also www.alert.msu.edu.)

**E-Learning Policies:**

Information technologies such as D2L and email will be used in this class. As a result there are some additional policies that must be understood.

- Students should regularly visit the course’s D2L site.
- Students should check their email frequently (all class email will be sent to the student’s official MSU email account.)
- Electronic course submittals, if any, should be free of any malware, viruses, worms, etc.
- This course recognizes the student’s right to privacy and adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Excessive emails make an unreasonable time demand on both sender and recipient.
- Please be sure you have a legitimate need before you write.
- Dr. Grobbel will answer email about:
  - Questions arising from difficulty in understanding course content.
  - Requests for feedback about grades, exams, etc.
  - Private issues appropriate from discussion within the teacher-student relationship.
- Dr. Grobbel will not answer email which:
  - Poses questions answered in the course information sections of the course D2L site.
  - Poses questions answered in the course syllabus.
  - Lacks a subject line clearly stating the purpose of the email and the course number (i.e., CSUS 465).
  - Raises inappropriate subject(s).
- Dr. Grobbel will make every effort to answer email received on a given day no later than close of work on the next workday.
- The website tech.msu.edu provided a number of information technology resources for students.
- You are responsible for the operation of any personally owned computers you use on or off campus. A malfunctioning computer system is not a valid excuse for missing class or failing to participate in class discussion(s).
- Students are expected to have a high degree of self-motivation and self-direction in this class, and develop skills to excel in the course and in life.