



TITLE: Natural Resources Conservation and Policy
NUMBER: NRM 101
CREDITS: 3
PREREQUISITES:
LOCATION: Irving 1 201; online
MEETING TIME: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. MWF
COURSE TYPE: F2F and online synchronous

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Peter J Fix
OFFICE LOCATION: 323 O'Neill; contact by email
OFFICE HOURS: M & W 3 to 4:30
TELEPHONE: 474-6926
EMAIL ADDRESS: pjfix@alaska.edu

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Michelle Kelley
OFFICE LOCATION: Distance, reach via email
OFFICE HOURS: n/a
TELEPHONE: n/a
EMAIL ADDRESS: mkelley11@alaska.edu

Catalog listing

Conservation of natural resources including history, ecological and social foundations. Examines principles of sustained yield, carrying capacity, supply and demand, and world population growth as applied to agriculture, range, forest, wildlife, fisheries, recreation, minerals and energy management. A wide range of perspectives is presented to help students develop a personal philosophy toward natural resources. Prepare a multiple resource observation plan for an undeveloped area on campus. Optional all-day field trips take place the first two Saturdays of the semester. *Note, this catalog description is somewhat outdated.*



Additional course description

Natural resources form the basis of human existence, from food and shelter to non-essential goods we consume. While there are differing perspectives on the appropriate relationship between humans and the environment, there is a need to manage (even deciding to “leave alone” requires management actions). Lessons from the past have resulted in more sustainably managed natural resources, and perspectives on sustainability continue to evolve. This course will cover the historical aspects of natural resource conservation, current aspects of conservation, and explore case studies of current conservation issues faced by society.

Historical aspects of conservation

Understanding the terminology: preservation, conservation, etc.

Introduction to contemporary thoughts/practices: ecosystem services, sustainability, adaptive management

Brief introduction to economics

Key agencies involved in conservation

AK natives: ANCSA, Native corporations and resource mgt.

Key environmental laws

After completion of this course, students will:

Correctly identify the key events forming the foundations of the modern conservation era, as well as key environmental laws

Accurately discuss the recent developments in the conservation field (e.g., resilience, adaptive management)

Articulate the differences among natural resource management agencies, including the role they play in natural resources conservation and policy

Apply critical thinking skills to contemporary conservation issues, applying course principles

We will use two text books for this course.

Sparling, D. W. (2014). *Natural resource administration: wildlife, fisheries, forests, and parks*.

Waltham, MA: Elsevier, Inc. ISBN: 978-0-12-404647-4

Carolan, M. (2018). *Society and the environment*. 2nd ed. New York: Routledge.

Students must have regular access to a computer and the Internet to access online materials in Blackboard. Students will be expected to download course material as well as upload assignments. If attending online, adequate bandwidth will be necessary. Although a camera is not required, it will add to the ability to participate in discussions.

The course will consist of a combination of lectures, case studies and discussions. The class is a “hybrid” class, meaning students have the option of attending in person, or via synchronous distance delivery.

The general schedule is below. A detailed calendar, with daily tasks and assignments, is included at the end of the syllabus. Note, topics might change.

Week	Topics
Part I: History/Foundations of Natural Resources Conservation	
Week 1	Introduction to NRM Key terms Preservation vs. conservation Contemporary terminology (ecosystem services, sustainability, adaptive management) Readings: Sparling introduction and Ch. 1; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 2	History of conservation Pre-European North America through European incursion Myth of superabundance and manifest destiny The move towards conservation Readings: Sparling Ch. 2; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 3	Tragedy of the commons & perspectives on ownership of wildlife Readings: Sparling Ch. 3; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 4	Key environmental laws NEPA, Clean Water Act, ESA, etc. Current status of environmental laws ANCSA & ANILCA Readings: Sparling Ch. 4; additional readings posted to blackboard
Part II: Administration of Natural Resources	
Week 5	U.S. Department of the Interior BLM, NPS, FWS, USGS, BoR, BIA, BOEM, OSM Current status of DOI agencies Readings: Sparling Ch. 6; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 6	U.S. DOI, <i>continued as needed</i> U.S. Department of Agriculture USFS, NRCS Current status of USDA agencies Readings: Sparling Ch. 7; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 7	Native Corporation in Alaska Readings: readings posted to blackboard State management of natural resources Readings: Sparling Ch. 8; additional readings posted to blackboard NGOs Readings: Sparling Ch. 9; additional readings posted to blackboard
Part III: Contemporary Issues in Natural Resources Conservation	
Week 8	Climate change Readings: Carolan Ch. 2; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 9	Waste Readings: Carolan Ch. 3; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 10	Biodiversity Readings: Carolan Ch. 4; additional readings posted to blackboard
Week 11	Population

You are expected to not only attend every class but to have read the materials assigned for that day

	General Letter Grade (specific points will be determined based on the degree meeting the standards for the letter grade)			
	A	B	C	D

To check your grades for assignments/quizzes and find comments from your instructor, click on the My Grades link in the sidebar menu. All assignments and any due dates are listed.* If your instructor has left overall assessment comments, Click on the speech bubble icon to view overall comments and feedback.

If the score is for a test or quiz, the title of the test is a link. Then click on the check mark or your score to see results and feedback.

~~UAF Help Desk (en) > BBT 10087 m0e fr en en~~

Go to <http://www.alaska.edu/oit/> to see about current network outages and technology news.

For technical questions, contact the Help Desk at:

e-mail at helpdesk@alaska.edu

phone: 907.450.8300 or 1.800.478.8226

Tutorial and academic support

Students who have difficulties with oral presentations, mathematics and/or writing are strongly encouraged to get help from:

[UAF Speaking Center](#) (907.474.5470, ~~Debbie Moses Learning Center~~) ~~Tcr m TBA (en) > BBT 10087 m0e fr en en~~

[UAF Writing Center](#) (907.474.5314, Gruening 8th floor)

[UAF Math Services](#)

[Debbie Moses Learning Center at CTC \(907.455.2860\)](#) (604 Barnette St, 907.455.2860).

Detailed Class Schedule , adjustments will most likely be made throughout the semester
