
Syllabus

TITLE: Resource Management Planning
NUMBER: NRM 430
CREDITS: 3
PREREQUISITES: Senior standing
LOCATION: Lectures 305 O'Neill
MEETING TIME: T & R 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
COURSE TYPE: Lecture
INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Peter J. Fix
OFFICE LOCATION: 323 O'Neill
OFFICE HOURS: Tues. & Thurs 1:15 to 2:45 p.m.
TELEPHONE: (907) 474-6926
EMAIL ADDRESS: pjfix@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, 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:

- 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 Blackboard.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE

Students must have regular access to a computer and the Internet to access materials in Blackboard. 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. It is expected you come to class having read the material and are 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), 2) comparing completed plans (i.e., listed in syllabus as assignment with class discussion), and 3) 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. The mid-term exam will be a take-home exam and the final exam will consist of a written evaluation of a plan that you find, and a brief presentation of your findings.

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

COURSE CALENDAR

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

Dates	Topics Covered
Week 1 1/14	Course Introduction
1/16	Introduction to scenario for in-class exercises Teams & Setting Rules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 2
Week 2 1/21	The Planning Process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 3 • Assignment & in class discussion: Comparison of completed plans
1/23	Decision Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 4 • In class exercise: Develop objectives and constraints
Week 3 1/28	Decision Context (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class exercise: Develop criteria
1/30	Decision Context (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class exercise: Ishwaka Diagram
Week 4 2/4	Gather Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 5 • Introduction to scenarios
2/6	Gather Evidence (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class exercise: Information gaps, plan for gathering evidence
Week 5 2/11	Public Involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 10 • In-class exercise: Develop public involvement plan
2/13	Guest Speaker, Steve Taylor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanana Lakes
Week 6 2/18	Formulate Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 6
2/20	Formulate Solutions (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assignment and class discussion: Comparison of completed plans
Week 7 2/25	Uncertainty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ch. 12
2/27	Uncertainty (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-class exercise: Identify sources of uncertainty

Week 8 3/3	Scenario Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 13
3/5	Scenario Planning (Cont.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-class exercise: Presentation of scenarios Mid-term exam due by 3/6
Week 9 3/10 to 3/12	Spring Break – no class!
Week 10 3/17	Evaluate solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch. 7 Assignment due and class discussion: Comparison of completed plans
3/19	Evaluate Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-class exercise: Evaluation of solutions
Week 11 3/24	Compare Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch8 In-class exercise: Comparing solutions
3/26	Make a Decision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ch 9 In-class exercise: Final decision
Week 12 3/31	Recap of in-class exercise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-class exercise: Group presentations
4/2	Planning in the BLM Guest speaker Michelle Ethun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Yukon Resource Management Plan
Week 13 4/7	Planning in the USFS
4/9	Planning in the USFWS
Week 14 4/14	Planning in the NPS
4/16	Case study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
Week 15 4/21	Case study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
4/23	Case study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD
April 28	Final exam 10:15 a.m. to 12:15

COURSE POLICIES

This course will adhere to the following policies.

- Points, equivalent to one letter grade per day late, will be deducted for late assignments (unless arrangements have been made, see below).
- 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.
- It is expected that you attend all lectures, complete all assignments, and participate in class discussion.

EVALUATION POLICIES

Rubrics will be provided for the assignments, in-class exercises, and attendance.

Plus and minus grades will be used. Grades will utilize absolute score. The components of the final grade and their contribution to the overall grade are as follows.

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

¹Class participation will reflect attendance and contribution to the in-class exercises.

²These 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).

STUDENT PROTECTIONS AND SERVICES STATEMENT

Every qualified student is welcome in my classroom. As needed, I am happy to work with you, disability services, veterans' services, rural student services, etc. to find reasonable accommodations. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX), and minors have additional protections. As required, if I notice or am informed of certain types of misconduct, then I am required to report it to the appropriate authorities. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go the following site: www.uaf.edu/handbook

SUPPORT SERVICES

Go to the Student Handbook (www.uaf.edu/handbook) for things like: academic advising, tutoring, library and academic support, disability services, computing and technology, veteran and military support, academic complaint and appeals, late withdrawals, "classroom" behavior expectations and more.

UAF eCampus Student Services helps students with registration and course schedules, provides information about lessons and student records, assists with the examination process, and answers general questions. Our Academic Advisor can help students communicate with instructors, locate helpful resources, and maximize their distance learning experience. Contact the UAF eCampus Student Services staff at 907.455.2060 or toll free 1.800.277.8060 or contact staff directly with our [directory listing](#).

UAF Help Desk

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: 450.8300 (in the Fairbanks area) or 1.800.478.8226 (outside of Fairbanks)

Effective Communication

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

- [UAF Department of Communication's Speaking Center](#) (907.474.5470, speak@uaf.edu)
- [UAF English's Department's Writing Center](#) (907.474.5314, Gruening 8th floor)
- [CTC's Learning Center](#) (604 Barnette Street, 907.455.2860).

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: www.alaska.edu/titleIXcompliance/nondiscrimination