

Fisheries and Wildlife Law and Policy
FW415/515

Credit hours: 3

Term offered: Spring

Instructor: Bob Davison

Course objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify statutes, regulations, policies, and court decisions that are central to public policy decisions affecting fish and wildlife conservation.
2. Describe how key statutes, regulations, policies, and court decisions affect natural resource policy decisions at state and federal levels.
3. Interpret the social, economic, and conservation implications of natural resource statutes, policies, and judicial interpretations.

In addition, upon completion of this course, graduate students will be able to:

1. Analyze and differentiate among statutes, regulations, policies, and court decisions that affect conservation of fish and wildlife.
2. Synthesize and formulate interpretations of natural resource statutes, regulations, policies, and court decisions in relation to fish and wildlife conservation.
3. Evaluate the social, economic, and conservation consequences of natural resources policy choices and court decisions.

Course content: The first half of the course will examine broad federal laws and policies concerning regulation of commerce in fish and wildlife, development and use of water resources, and conservation of endangered and threatened species. The second portion of the course will focus on fish and wildlife conservation within the legal and policy frameworks governing management of public lands (Bureau of Land Management lands, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, and Wilderness Areas) and within the frameworks established to encourage voluntary fish and wildlife conservation efforts on private lands.

Prerequisite(s): None

Text(s):

Required:

Bean, M.J. and M.J. Rowland. 1997. Evolution of national wildlife law. Praeger, Westport, Connecticut, USA.

Optional:

Coggins, G.C., C.F. Wilkinson, and J.D. Leshy. 2003. Federal public land and natural resources law: statutory supplement. Foundation Press, New York, New York, USA.

Term paper(s): Two writing assignments 3-5 pages in length

Testing: Midterm and Final

Students for whom the course is intended: Students with an interest in key legal frameworks which are working to conserve fish and wildlife resources.