

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY CHANNEL ISLANDS

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

PROGRAM AREA ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1. Catalog Description of the Course.

ESRM 329. ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY (3) [Formerly ESRM 330 Environmental Institutions, Law and Regulation]

Three hours of lecture per week.

Prerequisites: ESRM 100 or consent of the instructor.

The purpose of this course is to introduce the fundamental concepts of environmental law and policy and familiarize students with the various types legal of mechanisms used to protect the environment. A practical grounding in the basic legal concepts central to environmental law and how laws have been applied at the local, state, national, and international level will be gained. Students will also explore the purpose and function of some of the larger environmental institutions and their relationships with the public, business, and the environmental community.

2. Mode of Instruction.

	Units	Hours per Unit	Benchmark Enrollment
Lecture	3	1	25
Seminar			
Laboratory			
Activity			

3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course.

- Foster an awareness of environmental issues and the methods available for individuals, organizations, and governments to respond to these issues;
- Provide an introduction to environmental law and policy issues as they relate to local, state, national, and international problems; and
- Provide basic knowledge and a background on how laws and policies are created and implemented.

At the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Describe the major environmental issues at the state, national, and international levels;
- Describe the process by which state, national, and international public policies and laws are established;
- Describe the relationship between law and policy as it pertains to environmental issues and the institutions that carry out these laws;
- Describe the evolution of US and international environmental law;
- Describe the major state, federal, and international environmental laws and agreements and their relative effectiveness as public policy instruments;
- Identify a process by which a new environmental issue / threat can be addressed through policy and legislative means;
- Write short, effective communications which convey the substance of complex environmental issues; and
- Identify and effectively utilize various sources of environmental law and policy information to create succinct summaries and positions on complex issues.

It is anticipated that this course will be required for the ESRM major and minor.

4. Is this a General Education Course

NO

If Yes, indicate GE category:

A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)		
B (Mathematics & Sciences)		
C (Fine Arts, Literature, Languages & Cultures)		
D (Social Perspectives)		

## 5. Course Content in Outline Form.

Judging the state of the environment and environmental issues overview  
 Policy and legislation within the context of environmental issues  
 Evolution of US environmental policy and legislation  
 Evolution of international environmental policy and legislation  
 The regulatory environment  
 Environmental Issues in Ventura County  
 The policy making process  
 Air pollution  
 Water pollution  
 Energy and natural resource policies  
 Toxics and hazardous wastes  
 Land management issues  
 Climate change  
 Marine issues 1  
 Marine issues 2  
 Biodiversity conservation  
 Endangered species and CITES  
 Antarctica  
 The United Nations system  
 NAFTA  
 California environmental law and policy

## 6. References.

Percival, Miller, Schroeder and Leape, Environmental Regulation: Law, Science and Policy. (New York, N.Y., Aspen Law & Business, 3rd Ed., 2000).

Percival & Alevizatos, Law and Environment: A Multidisciplinary Reader. (Philadelphia, PA, Temple University Press, 1997).

Cronon, William, Uncommon Ground: Rethinking the Human Place in Nature. (New York, NY, W.W. Norton, 1996).

Foreman, Christopher Jr., The Promise and Peril of Environmental Justice. (Washington, DC, Brookings Institution, 1998).

## 7. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.

Professor Mark Zacharias

## 8. Frequency.

a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall   X   Spring        Summer       

## 9. New Resources Required.

None

## 10. Consultation.

N/A

11. If this new course will alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program, attach a program modification.