

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism
PRLS 670 – Environmental Law (3:3:0)
Fall 2010

DAY/TIME:	TBA	LOCATION:	GMU-TV
INSTRUCTOR:	James C. Kozlowski, J.D., Ph.D.	EMAIL ADDRESS:	jkozlows@gmu.edu
OFFICE LOCATION:	220A Occoquan Bldg	PHONE NUMBER:	703-993-2027
OFFICE HOURS:	By Appointment	CELL NUMBER:	703-455-5474
CREDITS:	3 hours		

PREREQUISITES: Graduate status and courses in ecology and environmental biology, OR permission of instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Focuses on interpretation of environmental laws and regulatory issues. Emphasizes critical evaluation of alternatives to unresolved issues in environmental policies involving endangered species, hazardous waste, and toxic substances.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Describe the limited role of the courts in resolving environmental law issues, particularly the level of judicial deference afforded to agency discretion and expertise under the Administrative Procedure Act and the Constitution.
2. Analyze the relevance and significance of specific facts cited by a court in a particular case to resolve issues/questions of environmental law.
3. Describe the role scientific and economic data in determining the social costs and benefits of environmental law and policy.
4. Identify the applicable rules of law used by courts to resolve issues of environmental law and policy.
5. Describe the legal analysis and methodology applied by courts to resolve environmental law issues, including the role of relevant case law, agency regulations, and legislative history.

REQUIRED TEXT

Farber, Freeman, Carlson and Findley's *Cases and Materials on Environmental Law*, 7th ed. American Casebook Series (St. Paul: Thomson-West, 2006) 994 pp. ISBN : 0314162909

Students are expected to attend and/or view each weekly class lecture taped for broadcast over GMU-TV

EVALUATION

3 exams (open book, weighted equally 33.3% each)

Exams in PRLS 670 will be computer based on CE6.

Each exam is composed of approx. 50 multiple choice questions. The exams are based on required readings and class lectures. To prepare for the exams, students will be required to focus on the applicable rules of law illustrated and distinguished by the case reports and court opinions in the required readings. Each exam will test students' understanding of general principles of environmental law and case examples described in the required readings and lectures. Exam questions will measure students' abilities to identify general legal principles used by the court to resolve questions of environmental law generally and in particular cases.

Grading Scale

A	92-100
A-	84-91
B+	76-83
B	67-75
B-	59-66
C+	51-58
C	41-50
F	0-40

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Week 1	Perspectives on Environmental Law	Farber Chapter 1, pp. 1-66
Week 2	Approaches to Environmental Protection	Farber 67- 133
Week 3	Approaches to Environmental Protection	Farber 133-190
Week 4	Endangered Species	Farber Chapter 3, pp. 191-275
Week 5	EXAM ONE	
Week 6	Constitution, Federalism, & Environmental Law	Farber Chapter 4, pp. 276-359
Week 7 & 8	Judicial Review and Administrative Process	Farber Chapter 5, pp. 360-512
Week 9 & 10	Air Pollution	Farber Chapter 6, pp. 513-645
Week 10	EXAM TWO	
Week 11 & 12	Water Pollution	Farber Chapter 7, pp. 646-787
Week 13 & 14	Hazardous Waste	Farber Chapter 8, pp. 788-925
Week 15	Toxic Substances, Modified Organisms	Farber Chapter 9, pp. 926-988

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.



- ❖ All students are held to the standards of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/apolicies/#Anchor12>]
- ❖ University policy states that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during Week unless otherwise authorized by the professor
- ❖ Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and inform the instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See www.gmu.edu/student/drc]
- ❖ For Counseling and Psychological Services information, please visit <http://caps.gmu.edu>
- ❖ For additional School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism information, please visit the website at <http://rht.gmu.edu>