

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism
PRLS 501 (Section 001) –Natural Resources Law (3)
Spring 2014

DAY/TIME:	Web based Tele video	LOCATION:	Web based Tele video
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. James C. Kozlowski	E-MAIL:	jkozlows@gmu.edu
		PHONE:	703.993.2027
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment	CELL:	703.455.8474

PREREQUISITES: PRLS 460 OR graduate status OR permission of instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Examines selected legal issues involving conflicting use and preservation demands on our nation's limited natural resource base, particularly those involving public lands, open space, and recreation resources. Uses case studies of recent court decisions.

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

1. Define the role of the courts in balancing conflicting use and preservation demands on our nation's limited natural resource base, particularly those involving public lands, open space, and recreation resources.
2. Analyze the relevance and significance of specific facts in a particular case involving the acquisition, management and preservation of natural resources, specifically public park and recreation resources.
3. Identify the issues/questions of natural resources law to be resolved by the court in a particular case involving the acquisition, management and preservation of natural resources, specifically public park and recreation resources.
4. Identify the relevant sources and rules of law applied by courts to resolve issues of natural resources law involving the acquisition, management and preservation of natural resources, specifically public park and recreation resources.
5. Describe the legal analysis and methodology applied by courts to resolve issues of natural resources law, including the role of cases, regulations, legislative materials, and other relevant law related information used by courts to resolve natural resources law issues.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Courses offered in the Sport and Recreation Studies (SRST) graduate program are guided by the principles of the Commission of Sport Management Accreditation (COSMA). COSMA (2010, p. 1) “bases its accrediting process on principles, rather than standards.” The eight recommended principles are:

- outcomes assessment;
- strategic planning;
- curriculum;
- faculty;
- scholarly and professional activities;
- resources;
- internal and external relationships; and
- educational innovation.

For more information, please see:

Commission of Sport Management Accreditation. (2010, June). *Accreditation principles and self study preparation*. Retrieved November 23, 2013 from <http://cosmaweb.org/accredmanuals>

NATURE OF COURSE DELIVERY

Web-based televideo course

REQUIRED READINGS & CLASS ITEMS:

The "textbook" in this course is a compilation of case reports and related articles which I have written, in particular my monthly "NRPA Law Review" column in *Parks & Recreation* magazine (the official publication of the National Recreation and Park Association). These case reports and related articles will be available for reading, downloading and printing on the PRLS 501 site of my GMU homepage at the following address: <http://classweb.gmu.edu/jkozlows/501.htm>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: I take the GMU Honor Code very seriously. Allowing students to take PRLS 501 exams off campus on a more flexible schedule is a privilege which PRLS 501 students have traditionally appreciated and have conducted themselves responsibly, but it may be subject to abuse. I expect every PRLS 501 student to know and adhere to their personal duties and responsibilities under the GMU Honor Code.

Individual exam questions on each exam are randomly selected by Blackboard from question sets in the PRLS 501 question database. All PRLS 501 exams are open book, but you are limited to primary course materials and video lectures posted to the PRLS 501 course webpage, as well as your own notes prepared prior to the exam.

Further, you are not to discuss the exam with any other student during or after the time which the exam is accessible. Providing or reproducing any information to another student about any questions on a PRLS 501 exam would constitute cheating within the context of the Honor Code, i.e., unauthorized use of study aids, memoranda, books, data, or other information.

Any reproduction, electronic or otherwise, of any exam questions and materials at any time is prohibited by the Honor Code. Further, all course materials, including all exam questions and materials, are the intellectual property of James C. Kozlowski protected by federal copyright law.

Responsibility of the Students

Students are responsible for understanding this PRLS 501 policy with regard to the Honor Code. Students are also responsible for understanding the provisions of the Honor Code. Students should also request an explanation of any part of the policy they do not understand.

All students have a duty to report to a suspected violation of the Honor Code to the course instructor.

COURSE OVERVIEW:

Through the case study method, this course examines the role of the courts and federal and state law in addressing a variety of issues involving the acquisition, management and preservation of natural resources, specifically public park and recreation resources. Natural resource law will be defined by the administrative and environmental review process used by citizens and interest groups to challenge governmental actions. Further, the course will examine the mission and authority of individual federal resource agencies within the context of specific environmental and resource conservation laws. In particular, this course will examine a number of natural resources legal issues involving recreation resources on federal lands.

EVALUATION: 3 EXAMS on Blackboard (open book, weighted equally, each exam worth 33.3%)

GRADING SCALE

Final grades are based solely on the percentage of points earned out of the total number of points available on all THREE exams. THERE IS NO EXTRA CREDIT. The grading scale for final grades based on the number of points earned out of a possible 150 on all THREE exams:

Grade Total Points Earned

A + 120 and above

A 105 - 1119

A - 90 - 104

B + 82 - 89

B 75 - 81

B - 67 - 74

C 60- 66

F 59 and below

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE:

The tentative course schedule is listed on the PRLS 501 Course Webpage: <http://classweb.gmu.edu/jkozlows/501.htm>

Students are expected to read and study the required readings for each unit as well as view the video lectures which accompanies each unit. The links to the video lectures are posted to the PRLS 501 course webpage:

In addition, to prepare for each exam, students are encouraged to access and complete the practice questions which will be provided on Blackboard.

Note: Faculty reserve the right to revise the course schedule.

Student Expectations

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the George Mason University Honor Code [See <http://academicintegrity.gmu.edu/honorcode/>].
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with the George Mason University Office of Disability Services (ODS) and inform their instructor, in writing, at the beginning of the semester [See <http://ods.gmu.edu/>].
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing [See

<http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/1301gen.html>].

- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their George Mason University email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students solely through their Mason email account.
- Students must follow the university policy stating that all sound emitting devices shall be turned off during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.
- Students are expected to exhibit professional behaviors and dispositions at all times.

Campus Resources

- The George Mason University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) staff consists of professional counseling and clinical psychologists, social workers, and counselors who offer a wide range of services (e.g., individual and group counseling, workshops and outreach programs) to enhance students' personal experience and academic performance [See <http://caps.gmu.edu/>].
- The George Mason University Writing Center staff provides a variety of resources and services (e.g., tutoring, workshops, writing guides, handbooks) intended to support students as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing [See <http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/>].
- For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, School of Recreation, Health, and Tourism, please visit our website [See <http://rht.gmu.edu/>].

CORE VALUES COMMITMENT: The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles.

