Course Description: This introductory course examines some of the major issues involving environmental law. The course provides a survey and analysis of environmental laws at the federal level for regulating water, air, wildlife, toxic substances, and other timely environmental issues. The course will also address questions pertaining to problems of implementation, interpretation, enforcement, and development of environmental laws. In addition to understanding the body of environmental laws, this course focuses on the case laws that have shaped environmental science and related policies.

Course Objectives: The three overarching goals of this course are as follows: 1) describe United States policy issues, laws, and institutions; 2) gain a deeper understanding of the interaction among environmental science, politics, policy, and law; 3) gain the tools in critical thinking to thoughtfully reflect on environmental case law.

Attendance Policy: You are expected to log into the class almost on a daily basis to post assignments, review discussion board posts, checking announcements, etc. The grading system is based on the total number of points accumulated:

A = 900-1000  
B = 800-899  
C = 700-799  
D = 600-699  
F = 599 or less

Exams, Assignments, and Paper:  
Modular Assignments 50%  
Reflective Paper 25%  
Cumulative Final Exam 25%

Total 100%  
The final exam will be administered on-line and will be comprised of factual information (e.g., people, events, statistics, ideas, dates, etc.). The modular assignments will be a mixture of factual (e.g., quiz, reading notes, or answers to specific questions) and reflective types of assignments (e.g., discussion posts). For reflective assignments, the grade will be assigned according to your ability to form a thoughtful response with examples and references. Some assignments will involve participating in online discussions so you will need to become familiar with the online education platform. Separate guidance will be posted for the module assignments and the reflective paper on CANVAS.
The deadline for students to elect to drop a course in Spring 2015 without academic penalty is **March 21, 2015.** It is University policy that prior to that date, students will have had sufficient material graded to be able to assess their standing in the class.

**Late and Extra Credit Policy:** Since this is an online course and you will have ample time to complete your assignments, I will not accept late work and there will be no extra credit given. I require my students to stay current with the assignments and the deadlines are FIRM. However, if you have a major disturbance in your life that prevents you from completing your assignment, you must provide documentation to me (i.e., hospital records, doctor’s notes, obituary column, etc.) and I will assess it on a case-by-case basis.


**CANVAS Support:** Support is available for CANVAS through USFSM E-Learning staff from 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday. Please call or email Tony Spall at 941-359-4202  aspall@sar.usf.edu The USF Tampa IT Helpdesk provides 24 hour support. Please call 813-974-1222 or email: help@usf.edu if you need assistance outside of USFSM’s E-Learning hours.

**Schedule for POS 3697 (may be subject to change)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1 (January 5-11)</td>
<td>Icebreaker Introductions and see to the right for more information and refer to Canvas class info.</td>
<td>No Readings but explore Canvas/Online Course, text book (rent or buy used if you can)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 (January 12-18)</td>
<td>Introduction to Environmental Law and Definitions</td>
<td>Online Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 (Feb 2-8)</td>
<td>Federalism and the Environment</td>
<td>Nutshell: 59-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (Feb 9-15)</td>
<td>Pollution Control: Common Law Remedies and the Clean Air Act</td>
<td>Nutshell: 93-133</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WEEK 7 (Feb 16-22)  Regulation Under the Clean Air Act  Nutshell: 133-155

8 (Feb 23-March 1)  Climate Change Case Law and Economic Incentives For Environmental Protection and Online Reading  Nutshell: 155-167

9 (March 2-8)  Spring Break!!!!!


13 (March 30-April 5)  Mandatory Reporting of Chemical Hazards, Criminal Liability, Common Law Remedies, and Environmental Justice  Nutshell: 253-273 Online Reading

14 (April 6-12)  Preservation of Natural Areas and Development  Nutshell: 275-300


**Important Dates**

Mar 2-7 USF Spring Break
Mar 21 Last day to drop with a “W” (no refund and no academic penalty)
Apr 25-May 1 Final Exam Week
May 5 Instructor e-grades deadline
USF Sarasota-Manatee Policies and Procedures

Religious Observances
The University recognizes the right of students and faculty to observe major religious holidays. Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class for a major religious observance must provide notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, by the second week of classes. http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-10-045.pdf

Disabilities Accommodation
Students are responsible for registering with the Office of Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) in order to receive academic accommodations. Reasonable notice must be given to the SDS office (typically 5 working days) for accommodations to be arranged. It is the responsibility of the student to provide each instructor with a copy of the official Memo of Accommodation. Contact Information: Disability Coordinator: 359-4714; disabilityservices@sar.usf.edu; http://www.usfsm.edu/students/disability/

Academic Dishonesty
The University considers any form of plagiarism or cheating on exams, projects, or papers to be unacceptable behavior. Please be sure to review the university’s policy in the USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct.

Academic Disruption
The University does not tolerate behavior that disrupts the learning process. The policy for addressing academic disruption is included with Academic Dishonesty in the USFSM Undergraduate Catalog or USFSM Graduate Catalog and the USF Student Code of Conduct. Undergraduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/ Graduate: http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/Academics/Catalogs/ USF Student Code of Conduct: http://www.sa.usf.edu/srr/page.asp?id=88

Contingency Plans
In the event of an emergency, it may be necessary for USFSM to suspend normal operations. During this time, USFSM may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include but are not limited to: Canvas, Elluminate, Skype, and email messaging and/or an alternate schedule. It’s the responsibility of the student to monitor Canvas site for each class for course specific communication, and the main USFSM and College websites, emails, and MoBull messages for important general information. The USF hotline at 1 (800) 992-4231 is updated with pre-recorded information during an emergency. Emergency Preparedness It is strongly recommended that you become familiar with the USF Sarasota-Manatee Emergency Action Plan on the Safety Preparedness site http://www.sarasota.usf.edu/facilities/SafetyPreparedness.php Fire Alarm Instructions At the beginning of each semester please note the emergency exit maps posted in each classroom. These signs are marked with the primary evacuation route (red) and secondary evacuation route (orange) in case the building needs to be evacuated.

Web Portal Information
Every newly enrolled USF student receives an official USF e-mail account. Students receive official USF correspondence and Canvas course information via that address. Therefore it is the student’s responsibility to check their USF email regularly.

Instructor Copyright
Students may not sell notes or other course materials.

Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Harassment Reporting:
USFSM is committed to providing an environment free from sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence (USF System Policy 0-004). The Counseling and Wellness Center is a confidential resource where you can talk about incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. This confidential resource can help you without having to report your situation to either the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (OSSR) or the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equal Opportunity (DIEO), unless you request that they make a report.
Please be aware that in compliance with Title IX and under the USF System Policy, educators must report incidents of sexual harassment and gender-based crimes including sexual assault, stalking, and domestic/relationship violence. If you disclose any of these situations in class, in papers, or to me personally, I am required to report it to OSSR or DIEO for investigation. The Deputy Coordinator for USFSM is Mary Beth Wallace, AVP for Student Enrollment, Engagement and Success, 941-359-4330 or marybeth@sar.usf.edu.

**Campus Resources:**

- Counseling Center and Wellness Center 941-487-4254
- Victim Advocate (24/7) 941-504-8599
- List of off-campus resources:
  - Hope of Manatee: 941-755-6805
  - Safe Place & Rape Crisis Center (SPARCC) – Sarasota: 941-365-1976
  - First Call for Help- Manatee: 941-708-6488
  - Sarasota & North Port 941-366-5025
  - Manatee Glens: 941-782-4800