

Date: Spring 2006

- I. Course Name: Environmental Conservation/Outdoor Recreation Law II
Course Prefix and Number: CON/CJC 232
Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours – 3 contact hours
Catalog Description:

This course will cover the main environmental laws and problems that deal with a wide range of conservation-recreation topics such as air pollution, SEQRA, environmental impact statements, water pollution, freshwater wetlands regulations, property rights and landowner liability, hazardous waste, medical waste, pesticide use, storage and disposal. It is exclusive of the topics covered in CJC 231, although the same text is used. (Also listed as CON 232)

II. Course Outcomes and Objectives

Learning Outcomes: The course is designed to provide students with a greater understanding of how specific state and federal laws work to protect the environment. Students will also have a greater ability to utilize the NYS Environmental Conservation Law book to find laws. Scenarios and case studies will provide students the opportunity to diagnose hypothetical situations and determine how the law should be applied.

Relationship to Academic programs and curriculum: This class is a mandatory course for Conservation Law students and is a complement to CON 231/CJC 231.

College competencies addressed by the course:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> writing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethics/values
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> oral communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> citizenship
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> reading	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> global concerns
<input type="checkbox"/> mathematics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> information resources
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> problem-solving	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> professional competency
<input type="checkbox"/> computer literacy	

III. Methods of Instruction

Types of Course materials: Conservation Law Book, handouts, videos, power point presentation material, current event articles

Methods of instruction: power point lecture, student lead discussion, scenario analysis, field trips, conference

Assessment measures: term paper, mid-term, quizzes, final exam, scenario write-up

Methods of Evaluation:

Grades will be determined in the following manner:

Mid term Exam:	15%- Covers the first three classes
Final Exam:	20%- Covers the entire semester
Scenario Projects:	20%- We will have a scenario for almost each Article
Quizzes:	15%- We will have a quiz at the end of most Articles
Paper:	15%- 4-6 page paper that further explores one of the laws we cover in class
Participation:	15%- This is a very important part of the class. 15% can shift your grade from a 95 average down to an 80 if you do not actively participate.

IV. General Outline of Topics covered

1. Introduction: Content, requirements, introductions
2. Overview of Law and Environmental Law
 - Law -- define
 - Historical Review
 - Institutions and Agencies
 - Bill -> Law
 - How to cite the E.C.L.
 - Current issues
3. Local Model Forestry Law
4. Environmental Conservation Laws
 - A. Environmental Impact Assessment & Analysis
 1. NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act
 2. SEQRA - NYS Environmental Quality Review Act
Article 8
 - B. Wetlands Protection & Regulation
 1. Section 404 - Wetlands Regulation (Clean Water Act)
 2. Freshwater Wetlands Act - Article 24
 3. Tidal & Coastal Wetlands - Article 25
 - C. Water and Water Quality Law
 1. NYS Stream Protection Act
 2. Water Resources - Article 15.
 3. Water Quality Law - Article 17
 4. Federal Clean Water Act
 5. Safe Drinking Water Act

D. Air Quality Law & Noise Abatement

1. Air Quality Law - Article 19
2. NYS Acid Deposition Control Act
3. Federal Clean Air Act
4. Noise Control Act

E. Land Use, Zoning

1. Land Use Controls: Zoning, PDR, TDR, PUD, Growth management, Easements, Leases and Covenants, "Takings"
2. Laws of Trespass and Posting
3. General Obligations Law - Landowner Liability
4. Landowner Rights and Responsibilities

F. Solid, Hazardous and Medical Waste Disposal Laws

1. Solid Waste & Refuse - Article 27
2. Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA)
3. Hazardous Substances - Article 37
4. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund)
5. Regulated Medical Wastes - Article 27
6. NYS Returnable Container Law

G. Pesticide, Detergent and CFC Laws

1. Pesticides - Article 33
2. Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act
3. Detergents and Household Cleaners - Article 35
4. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) - Article 38

H. Bulk Storage Laws

1. Hazardous Substances Bulk Storage - Article 40
2. Bulk Storage of Petroleum, etc. - Article 17

I. Mining Law

1. Uranium Mining - Article 22
2. Mineral Resources - Article 23, Title 27
3. Surface Mining Control & Reclamation Act (SMCRA)
4. General Mining Law of 1872

Field Trips and Guest Speakers: I am working on possible field trips to local areas and bringing in guest speakers that have expertise in a particular law to enhance your understanding of the course material.