

Syllabus for SMGT 360 Environmental and Sustainability Policy

Course Description

Prerequisite: SMGT 115

Course topics include the spectrum of historical, theoretical and technical issues applicable to sustainable management of natural resources, environmental quality standards and risk management. Administrative structures that form the basis for selecting appropriate responses to complex management problems faced by industry, government and non-governmental agencies are identified. The historical development and current framework of public policy are investigated and specific foundational legislation is critiqued.

Course Learning Outcomes

This course presents an essential foundation for critical thinking and professional development in the environmental science and management field. It also focuses on administrative structures in place for selecting the appropriate management responses by government and non-government agencies. Students are expected to draw on factual information and their own critical thinking and communication skills.

Upon completion of the course, students will be prepared to:

- Discuss the roles of the public, interest groups and the media in influencing environmental policy
- Describe the history of environmental policy and existing case law from the perspective of impact on current policy formulation
- Describe the processes of environmental agenda-setting, legislation and regulation
- Discuss the roles of federal, state and local government in administering environmental policy
- Perform a detailed investigation and evaluation of a foundational federal statute influencing environmental policy
- Understand current sustainable development and management issues and the roles of stakeholders in green policy formulation and implementation

Course Materials

Information on course materials can be found in the [textbook section](#) of the SMGT website.

Course Requirements

The course includes weekly assignments and discussions, a midcourse exam and a final exam, and a research paper.

Students will prepare a research paper on the subject of “Voluntary Management Techniques: Going Beyond the Regulations.” Students will choose **one** of the following approaches to the research: an in-depth study of one corporation’s environmental initiatives beyond the current regulatory requirements applicable to the corporation’s business practices **or** compare and contrast the environmental initiatives of several corporations with an analysis of potential or actual positive impact on the environment.

Grading Policy

Late homework will be downgraded 25% each day past the due date.

Homework Assignments: 20%

Online Discussions: 20%

Midterm Examination: 20%

Final Examination: 20%

Research Paper: 20%

A = 90 to 100%

B = 80 to 89%

C = 70 to 79%

D = 60 to 69%

F = below 60%