

SPRING 2013

FO 4413 / 6413

NATURAL RESOURCE POLICY

SYLLABUS ○ DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY ○ COLLEGE OF FOREST RESOURCES ○ MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Instructor

Dr. Changyou “Edwin” Sun
325-7271, 363 Thompson Hall, csun@cfr.msstate.edu
MW 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (office hour, or by appointment)

Class Schedule

MW 3:45 – 5:00 p.m.; 208 Thompson Hall Annex

Course Description (Mississippi State University Bulletin)

(Prerequisite: Senior Standing). Three hour lecture. Current topics relating to natural resources policy which affect management decisions and practices in the public and private sectors of natural resources use.

Course Objectives

This course focuses on public policies of natural resources in the United States and briefly in the world. Policy process will be discussed in order to help conceptualize how policy is made. Participants in the policy process will be examined. Finally, various programs related to federal, state, private, and global natural resources policies will be scrutinized. This integration of process, participants, and programs should help students understand how public values and opinions about natural resources have been formed and developed into public programs. By the end of the course, students will understand

- The policy process for natural resources management;
- The participants in the policy process;
- Various policies and laws for federal, state, and private natural resources; and
- Some global forest policy issues.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Cubbage, F.W., J. O’Laughlin, and C.S. Bullock III. 1993. *Forest Resource Policy*. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. ISBN-10: 0471622451.

Other reading materials will be assigned in class or posted on the course Web site.

Grading and Evaluation

	Percentage
1 st Exam	20%
2 nd Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
Quizzes	10%
Term Paper	20%

Final grade determination will be based on the following scale:

A: 90.0-100%; B: 80.0-89.9%; C: 70.0-79.9%; D: 60.0-69.9%; F: < 60.0%

Notes on Lectures and Grading

1. **Lecture:** Lectures are primarily based on the materials assigned in class. Microsoft PowerPoint slides will be posted on the course Web site. You are **STRONGLY** encouraged to take good notes in class.
2. **Attendance:** Attendance is required as detailed in the University policy below. There is no direct score associated with attendance. Quizzes will give students incentives to attend class. For class absence with legitimate reasons, **written evidences or emails** should be submitted within **four days** of absence. In other words, **oral messages** will not be counted in any circumstances. Any form of evidence will not be counted **after four days** unless there are legitimate reasons.
3. **Exam:** The coverage of the 1st and 2nd exam will be announced in class. The final exam will be comprehensive. Missing an exam at the specified time is not allowed unless there is a legitimate excuse. If needed, make-up exams will be dealt with case by case.
4. **Quiz:** Quizzes will not be announced in advance. Missed quizzes cannot be made up no matter what the reason is. If a student misses a quiz with a legitimate excuse, that quiz will be excluded in the final calculation for that student. The student must give the instructor **written evidences** within **four days**. If a student misses a quiz without a legitimate excuse, the student will receive zero for that quiz.

Responsibilities

Student:

1. Read syllabus and other materials provided by instructor
2. Attend lectures and take good notes in class
3. Review notes periodically and ask questions if necessary
4. Learn (rather than memorize) the material presented by the instructor
5. Pass quizzes and exams and write a term paper.

Instructor:

1. Teach the course in a clear and understandable manner to encourage learning
2. Answer questions related to the course
3. Provide opportunities to practice methods covered by lectures
4. Accurately assess and report the level of understanding achieved by each student in the course.

Attendance

The official code of class attendance for the University is documented in the Academic Operating Policy and Procedure (AOP 12.09). Upon registration, the student accepts the responsibility of attending all classes and doing any work the instructor may prescribe. When absence from class is essential, the student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor to substantiate the reason for absence. The student is also responsible for making arrangements that are satisfactory to the instructor in regard to work missed. These arrangements should be made prior to the absence when possible. Among the reasons absences are considered excused by the university are the following:

- Participation in an authorized university activity.
- Death or major illness in a student's immediate family.
- Illness of a dependent family member.
- Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student's presence.
- Religious holy day.
- Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.
- Required participation in military duties.
- Mandatory admission interviews for professional or graduate school which cannot be rescheduled.

It is the student's responsibility to secure documentation of an illness from a physician. The documentation must contain the date and time the student sought treatment. Based upon the documentation, the instructor will decide whether makeup work will be allowed.

Academic Dishonesty

MSU Honor Code: "As a Mississippi State University student I will conduct myself with honor and integrity at all times. I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor will I accept the actions of those who do."

The official code of student conduct for the University is documented by the *Bulldog Handbook*. Several examples are listed in the handbook that illustrates the kinds of activities considered to be "academic misconduct" by the University. These include, but are not limited to:

- Using unauthorized materials (crib notes, books, etc.) as an aid during an examination;
- Looking at or using information from another person's exam, report, or assignment;
- Providing assistance to, or receiving assistance from, another person in any manner prohibited by the instructor;
- Possessing or providing an examination or assignment, or any part thereof, at any time or in any manner not authorized by the instructor;
- Taking a quiz, examination, or similar evaluated assignment for another person; or utilizing another person to take a quiz, examination, or similar assignment in place of oneself;
- Submitting any course materials or activities not the student's own, allowing such a submission to be made for oneself, or making such a submission for another;
- Using the ideas, organization, or words from a book, article, paper, computer file, or other source in any assignment without giving proper credit following accepted citation rules (plagiarism).

Sanctions for academic misconduct include a grade of "F" in the course and suspension from the University.

Students with Disabilities

If a student has a disability and desires any assistance devices, services, or other accommodations to participate in any activities associated with this course, please contact me, or call 325-0928 during normal business hours, as soon as possible to discuss the necessary accommodations.

Term Paper

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Group Formation

Undergraduate students will form groups to work on the term paper; each group will have about **three** students. For graduate students, depending on the number of students enrolled and their backgrounds, either group or individual term papers will be allowed.

Topic Selection

Except the issue of forest fire, you can choose any topic related to natural resources policy for your term paper. The reason of excluding forest fire is that too many term papers have been written about this topic in the past. You are encouraged to discuss your topic selection with me if you feel uncertain. Some examples are listed below for your consideration.

- Best Management Practices in forestry: cost, implementation, and impact
- Institutional innovation to reduce the negative impacts from forest fragmentation
- Participation in governmental cost-share programs by non-industrial private forest landowners
- Non-timber outputs from forests and related policy issues
- Policies that motivate NIPF landowners to participate in wildlife-based enterprises
- Increasing appeals on forest planning and management of national forests

Outputs and Formats

The term paper must be typed; **both a hard copy and a Microsoft Word copy** are required for submission. The final paper should be at least ten pages long. It needs to be formatted into double space, 12 Times New Roman, and one inch margin. It should follow the style of a standard research paper (e.g., *Journal of Forestry*). At least eight references are required, and among them, at least four are from peer-reviewed journals (e.g., *Forest Policy and Economics*).

Evaluation

100 points; based on format, grammar, and content

Due Date

3:45 p.m. on Monday, April 15. Late papers will not be accepted.

Course Schedule

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No	Date	Day		Section	Reading
1	Jan 7	Mon	Syllabus		
2	Jan 9	Wed		Section 1 Forest resources and public policy	Chapter 1
3	Jan 14	Mon		Section 2 Policy and political process	Chapter 2
4	Jan 16	Wed		Section 3 Market vs. government in resource policy	Chapter 3
5	Jan 21	Mon	Holiday		
6	Jan 23	Wed		Section 4 Policy issues and formulation	Chapter 4
7	Jan 28	Mon		Section 5 Policy evaluation and implementation	Chapter 5
8	Jan 30	Wed	1st Exam		
9	Feb 4	Mon		Section 6 The legislature	Chapter 6
10	Feb 6	Wed		Section 7 The Executive	Chapter 7
11	Feb 11	Mon		Section 8 The Judiciary	Chapter 8
12	Feb 13	Wed		Section 9 Interest groups	Chapter 9
13	Feb 18	Mon		Section 10/11 Ethics and media	Chapter 10/11
14	Feb 20	Wed		Section 12 Public ownership and management	Chapter 12
15	Feb 25	Mon		Section 13 Multiple use forestry and forest planning	Chapter 13
16	Feb 27	Wed		Section 14 Federal environment protection	Chapter 14
17	Mar 4	Mon		Section 15 Wildlife management and policy	Chapter 15
18	Mar 6	Wed	2nd Exam		
19	Mar 11	Mon	Spring break		
20	Mar 13	Wed	Spring break		
21	Mar 18	Mon		Section 16 State regulation of forest practices	Chapter 16
22	Mar 20	Wed		Section 17 Public assistance for private owners	Chapter 17
23	Mar 25	Mon		Section 17 Public assistance for private owners	Papers
24	Mar 27	Wed		Section 18 Forest fragmentation	Papers
25	Apr 1	Mon		Section 19 Forest certification	Papers
26	Apr 3	Wed		Section 19 Forest certification	Papers
27	Apr 8	Mon		Section 20 Air quality and forest fire policies	Papers
28	Apr 10	Wed		Section 21 US and Canada lumber trade	Papers
29	Apr 15	Mon		Section 21 US and Canada lumber trade	Papers
30	Apr 17	Wed		Section 22 Global forests and climate changes	Papers
31	Apr 22	Mon		Section 22 Global forests and climate changes	Papers
32	Apr 24	Wed	Summary		
	Apr 29	Mon	Final exam	3:00 – 4:30 pm	

Reading Materials

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Section 17. Public assistance for private owners

- Lee, J.K. and F. Kaiser. 1992. Substitution of public for private funding in planting southern pine. *Southern Journal of Applied Forestry* 16(4): 204-208.
- Royer, J.P. 1987. Determinants of reforestation behavior among southern landowners. *Forest Science* 33(3): 654-667.

Section 18. Forest fragmentation

- Londo, A.J. and D.L. Grebner. 2004. Economics of scale and forest management in Mississippi. Proceedings of the 12th biennial southern silvicultural research conference, Gen. Tech. Rep. SRS-71. Asheville, NC: USDA, Forest Service.
- Mehmood, S.R. and D. Zhang. 2001. Forest parcelization in the United States-a study of contributing factors. *Journal of Forestry* 99(4): 30-34.

Section 19. Forest certification

- Fanzeres, A. and K.A. Vogt. 2000. Roots of forest certification: its developmental history, types of approaches, and statistics. In *Forest Certification: Roots, Issues, Challenges, and Benefits*, ed., K.A. Vogt, B.C. Larson, J.C. Gordon, D.J. Vogt, and A. Fanzeres. CRC Press, Washington, D.C.
- Sasser, E.N. 2003. Gaining leverage: NGO influence on certification institutions in the forest products sector. In *Forest Policy for Private Forestry: Global and Regional Challenges*, ed., L. Teeter, B. Cashore, and D. Zhang.

Section 20. Air quality and forest fire policies

- Sun, C. 2006. A roll call analysis of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act and constituent interests in fire policy. *Forest Policy and Economics* 9(2): 126-138.

Section 21. U.S. and Canada softwood lumber trade

- Gorte, R.W. and J. Grimmett. 2003. Lumber imports from Canada: issues and events. CRS Issue Brief for Congress. 11 pages.
- Yin, R. and J. Baek. 2004. The US-Canada softwood lumber trade dispute: what we know and what we need to know. *Forest Policy and Economics* 6(1): 129-143.

Section 22. Global forests and climate changes

To be updated.

Others

- Cubbage, F.W. and D.H. Newman. 2006. Forest Policy Reformed: A United States Perspective. *Forest Policy and Economics* 9(3): 261-273.