

**FISH AND WILDLIFE POLICY & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**WF 4353/6353 (3 Credits)**

**Syllabus - Fall 2011**

**9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Tuesdays & Thursdays**

**118 Thompson Hall**

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. W. Daryl Jones

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**OFFICE HOURS:** please contact for appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course is designed as a survey of fish and wildlife policy, law, and law enforcement topics for seniors and graduate students. This course focuses on the theories and fundamentals of natural resources policy, law, and law enforcement.

The course is divided into three units. The first section provides the historical, legal, and philosophical foundation of fish and wildlife policies and laws. The second section focuses on major wildlife laws and the principles and practices of conservation law enforcement. The final section addresses two broad areas:

- (1) Compliance and corrections as related to fish and wildlife violations, and
- (2) Information and skills needed for successful administration of fish and wildlife policies and laws now and in the future.

**REQUIRED READINGS:**

The required text for this course is available at the MSU Bookstore:

**Bean, M. J., and M. J. Rowland. 1997. The Evolution of National Wildlife Law. Third ed. Praeger, Westport, Conn. 544 pp.**

Required reading assignment below is available on Amazon.com or other Internet sources:

**Stolzenburg, William. Where the Wild Things Were: Life, Death, and Ecological Wreckage in a Land of Vanishing Predators. Bloomsbury – New York, Berlin, and London.**

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

*Having successfully completed this course, you will be able to...*

1. Define common legal terms.
2. Explain the relationship among natural resources policy and law, wildlife law enforcement, and wildlife habitat management.
3. List the significant stages and events in the evolution of wildlife law and law enforcement.
4. Discuss federal versus state jurisdiction over wildlife, citing the relevant clauses of the U.S. Constitution.
5. Describe several state, federal, and international fish and wildlife-related policies and laws and the implications of each in terms of management of fish and wildlife resources.
6. Compare and contrast the job of conservation law enforcement officers in North America.
7. Provide examples of common ethical dilemmas faced by wildlife biologists and conservation officers and analyze them to arrive at your own choice for handling each.
8. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of effective communication, professionalism, and leadership in the wildlife & conservation law enforcement profession.
9. Recognize the major trends in U.S. demography and discuss examples of their implications for fish and wildlife law enforcement.
10. Use the worldwide web to locate information on laws and agency regulations.

## **EVALUATION:**

Grading will be based on the following percentages:

	<b>Percent of Total Grade</b>	<b>Points</b>
Exam I	17	100
Exam II	17	100
Final Exam	25	150
Book Report	16	100
Research Paper	25	150
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>600 pts</b>

**GRADING SCALE:** Final grade determination will be based on the following scale:

- A: 90-100%
- B: 80-89%
- C: 70-79%
- D: 60-69%
- F: <60%

**EXAMS:** Exams will be closed-book and a combination of multiple choice and essay questions. The exams will be **cumulative**, meaning that you are expected to have a general understanding of the material covered in previous exams. However, the *focus* of each exam will be on material presented in the corresponding sections.

**CLASS NOTES:** Most of the lecture notes are accessible at the following link: (<http://www.cfr.msstate.edu/students/Wfpages/wf4353.asp> . Additional lecture notes and required readings may be added during times in the semester.

**BOOK REPORT:** Paper to discuss assigned outside reading by: **Stolzenburg, William. Where the Wild Things Were: Life, Death, and Ecological Wreckage in a Land of Vanishing Predators.**

Book is available online through Amazon.com or other web-based store sites.

Paper will include the following sections:

- I. Summary of the book
- II. Brief discussion and your perceptions of predator control and restoration in the US
- III. Relevance of this book in your opinion to predator control and restoration in terms of future US natural resource policy and law

Report should be at least 8 pages in length, 12 point font, and 1.5 setting for line spacing.

**RESEARCH PAPER:** Choose a wildlife, fisheries, or natural resource policy topic and give a brief chronology and history about the issue and its role in US policy development and law. Next, you are to develop a policy framework that formulates future directives that you believe the US Congress and jurisdictional federal agencies responsible for the issue should implement to deal with the issue or problem. Lastly, how will the issue be dealt with or alleviated if your policy directives are implemented – in other words, how will you solve or deal with the issue if you were given the authority and resources necessary to address your topic.

**Paper Sections:**

- I. Introduction: present your topic or issue**
- II. Literature review: discuss what we know about the topic. 10 scientific citations are required**
- III. Proposed future directives: to be taken by US Congress and appropriate federal agencies**
- IV. Conclusions: how would you solve the issue and outcomes produced if your policy directives are implemented through environmental law and management programs**

Paper should be 10-12 pages in length, 12 point font, and 1.5 setting for line spacing.

**CLASS INVOLVEMENT:** You are expected to attend class and unexcused absences will result in loss of possible points for attendance and class involvement.

## **COURSE POLICIES:**

Stating certain policies at the start of the class helps to ensure fairness for all students. While the instructor will do everything in his power to make this course an enjoyable and productive learning experience, he intends to enforce the policies as stated below. Your success in this course is ultimately *your* responsibility, so please read and adhere to the following:

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. A list of acts of misconduct which are unacceptable and may require disciplinary action (and a detailed explanation of disciplinary processes for students) is provided in *The Bulldog*. As instructor, I will deal with all occurrences of academic misconduct in accordance with guidelines and procedures outlined in the Academic Misconduct Policy, which may be accessed on the web at: <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1207.html> .

PLAGIARISM. Students are expected to do their own work. Plagiarism will not be tolerated, and any student caught engaging in plagiarism will receive a score of zero for that assignment, exam, or report. Depending on the severity and frequency of the plagiarism, the instructor reserves the right to give a zero for the class.

CLASS ATTENDANCE. If you arrive late to class, you need to check with me on not being counted absent. Legitimate excuses for absences are primarily limited to documented personal or family illnesses, and excuses must be communicated to the instructor in advance of the day of the absence. You are responsible for all material covered in class even though you were absent. Regarding missed examinations, no make-up exams are given. Additionally, assignments turned in late will be penalized.

## HONOR CODE

Mississippi State University has an approved Honor Code that applies to all students. The code is as follows:

**"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."**

Upon accepting admission to Mississippi State University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor Code. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the MSU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor Code. For additional information please visit: <http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/1207A.html>

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES. If you wish assistance under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, please contact me as soon as possible.

*Fish and Wildlife Policy & Law Enforcement (WF4353/6353)  
Fall 2011 Tentative Class Schedule*

<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<i>August 23: Introduction to Fish and Wildlife Policy &amp; Law Enforcement (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>August 25: Introduction to Fish and Wildlife Policy &amp; Law Enforcement (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>
<i>August 30: History of Wildlife Law and Law Enforcement (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>September 1: Wildlife/ Natural Resource Law and the American Legal System (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>
<i>September 6: No Class</i>	<i>September 8: No Class</i>
<i>September 13: The U.S. Constitution, Statutory Law, and Agency Rule-making (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>September 15: LSU game day – no class</i>
<i>September 20: Case Law and Judicial Actions about Fish and Wildlife Issues (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>September 22: Regulating Commerce in Wildlife &amp; Administrative Procedure Act (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>
<i>September 27: National Environmental Policy Act (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>September 29: Federal Water Pollution Control Act &amp; Oil Pollution Act (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>
<i>October 4: Exam I</i>	<i>October 6: Endangered Species Act (Dr. Francisco Vilella)</i>
<i>October 11: Endangered Species Act (Dr. Francisco Vilella)</i>	<i>October 13: North American Model for Wildlife Management (Daryl Jones)</i>
<i>October 18: Landowner Wildlife Incentive Programs and the Farm Bill (Dr. Sam Riffel)</i>	<i>October 20: International Conventions and Treaties and IUCN (Dr. Jerrold Belant)</i>
<i>October 25: No class</i>	<i>October 27: Exam II</i>
<i>November 1: Wildlife Damage Management &amp; Policy (Ms. Kris Godwin, USDA APHIS)</i>	<i>November 3: No Class</i>
<i>November 8: : Relevant Environmental Laws (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>November 10: MDWFP overview (Dave Godwin)</i>
<i>November 15: Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement (Dr. Kevin Hunt)</i>	<i>November 17: Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement (Dr. Kevin Hunt)</i>
<i>November 22: Fall Break</i>	<i>November 24: Thanksgiving</i>
<i>November 29: Recap (Dr. Daryl Jones)</i>	<i>December 8: (Thursday: 8a.m. – 11 a.m.): Final Exam</i>