Environmental Land Use Planning and Management

URP 6421 – Section 2749 – Spring A 2016
Online

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In this course, we survey land use planning and management approaches for the major environmental perspectives: natural systems and biodiversity, natural resources – water and land, natural hazards and climate change, sustainable settlements, and integrated systems. For each of these perspectives, we examine the systems of concern, associated planning goals and methods, and illustrative case studies; and we demonstrate the use of cross-cutting planning tools, such as collaboration, GIS, and plans. We focus on innovations in practice and inspiring examples.

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to
- Interpret any object of planning as a linked social-ecological system situated within overlapping and nested social-ecological systems.
- Describe social-ecological trends in different places and at different spatial-temporal scales, and their implications for near-term and long-term planning goals.
- Recognize and apply the major environmental perspective(s) above in any instance of environmental planning, acknowledging institutional, social, and resource constraints.
- Describe and appropriately apply a variety of planning tools – analytical, procedural, and policy/programmatic – to any environmental problem.
- Design or evaluate a planning initiative to meet an important environmental need.
- Draw upon real-world examples of environmental planning perspectives, approaches, and tools to inform practice and citizenship.

Course Format

The course Canvas site contains all course materials with the exception of the required textbook:
- *Environmental Land Use Planning and Management, 2nd Edition* (2011) by John Randolph, Island Press.

Several assignments require field-based learning in the student's locale.

Instructor office hours, via phone or Skype, are by appointment.

See topic and assignment schedule below. This syllabus is subject to minor change with advance notice to students.

Assignments and Grading

Assignment	Instructions	% of Grade
Quizzes	Twelve short quizzes based on the week's readings, open-book	25%
Discussions	Five discussions and peer feedback	15%
Case Study Report	Research and report an environmental planning initiative, including process, outputs, and outcomes	10%
Case Study Presentation	Narrated powerpoint presentation summarizing the case study	5%
Public Meeting	Attend and report on one local environmental planning meeting	10%
Field Trip Podcast	Conduct individual field trip, research, and create a short podcast present to class	10%
Plan Evaluation	Evaluate an environmental plan using each of the course module topics	25%

Each assignment will have a grading rubric of specific criteria based on the assignment instructions. In general, an "A" grade requires a solid understanding and application of the course readings, lectures, and class discussions, and other materials, insights or synthesis of topics that come from reflection and analysis, clear and compelling writing/presentation, proper reference citations, and timely submittal. A "B" grade is basically sound, but has a deficiency in one of the categories above. A "C" or lower grade has significant deficiencies.

Late assignments will be marked down 10% of the total grade if they are not turned in by the deadline, and then an additional 10% for each week they are late (including weekends). *Missed class* and *makeup work* are allowed with acceptable, documented, and prompt reasons for absence: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx. The terms of making up missed work will be determined by the instructor in discussion with the student. Communicate with me regarding late assignments and class absences ASAP.

The relationship between letter grades and numeric grades is: (≥ 93.0), A- (≥ 90.0), B+ (≥ 87.0), B (≥ 83.0), B- (≥ 80.0), C+ (≥ 77.0), C (≥ 73.0), C-(≥ 70.0), D+ (≥ 67.0), D (≥ 63.0), D-(≥ 60.0), and E (<60.0). Where A=4.0, A-=3.67, B+=3.33, B=3.0, B-=2.67, C+=2.33, C=2.0, C-=1.67, D+=1.33, D=1.0, D-=0.67, E=0.0.

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation and assistance with providing reasonable accommodation.

Student Honor Code and Academic Honesty

Students MUST follow the University's Honor Code, which includes issues of cheating, plagiarism, and honesty. Please see http://www.correspondencestudy.ufl.edu/students/handbook/Plagiarism/PlagiarismAlert.html for guidance to avoid plagiarism and other Honor Code violations. *I will screen all assignments for plagiarism using the text-matching tool Turnitin (http://turnitin.com/static/index.html).* Students must submit work that is original to this course, i.e., not the student's work from another course, unless it is used as a reference and properly cited.

Getting Help

UF provides a variety of services for distance learning students: http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help

About Professor Frank

I am an assistant professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. I specialize in collaborative and adaptive planning processes, especially for ecosystem/watershed management, regional sustainability, and rural stewardship. Recent research projects include evaluating collaborative planning for Everglades restoration, identifying state policies that influence regional transportation planning, and conducting sea level rise adaptation planning in Florida. I formerly worked as a consultant, and as an environmental engineer for a large manufacturing company. I have a doctorate in City and Regional Planning from Georgia Tech in Atlanta and a master's degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon. My undergraduate majors were chemical engineering and mathematics.

Schedule

Date	Topics	Read Prior to Class	Due
Course Overview and Environmental Planning Framework			
Week 1 Jan 4-10	Course overview		
	Environmental issues, ethics, planners, and plans	Ch. 1-3	Quiz 1
			Discussion 1 – self introductions
Collaboration, GIS, and Landscape Conservation			
Week 2 Jan 11-17	Collaboration and GIS	Ch. 4-5	Quiz 2
	Landscape conservation ecology	Ch. 10 pp. 317-328, 11, 15	Quiz 3
			Discussion 2 – landscape conservation
Watersheds, Aquifers, and Wetlands			
Week 3 Jan 18-24	Watersheds	Ch. 7 (not appendices), 8	Quiz 4
	Aquifers and wetlands	Ch. 9, 10 (342-363)	Quiz 5
			Discussion 3 - watersheds
Natural Hazards and Climate Change			
Week 4 Jan 25-31	Natural hazards	Ch. 13	Quiz 6
	Climate change	Ch. 12	Quiz 7
			Case study report and presentation
Land Resources and Integration Methods			
Week 5 Feb 1-7	Land resources	Ch. 6	Quiz 8

	Integration methods	Ch. 14	Quiz 9
			Discussion 4 – case study presentation feedback
			Public meeting report
Sustainable Settlements			
Week 6 _Feb 8-14_	Smart growth communities	Ch. 16, 17	Quiz 10
	Regional, state, and federal growth management	Ch. 18	Quiz 11
	Community redevelopment and revitalization		Conduct individual field trip and create podcast
Integrative Planning and Management			
Week 7 _Feb 15-21_	Adaptive ecosystem management	Ch. 19	Quiz 12
			Discussion 5 – field trip podcast feedback
Course Review			
Week 8 _Feb 22-27_	Putting it all together		Plan evaluation