

## Environmental Land Use Planning and Management

**URP 6421 – Fall 2023 – Online MURP  
Section 6421, Class 19804**

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Office hours: Wednesdays 3-4pm by Zoom,  
or by appointment



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This course surveys environmental land use planning and management practices across the breadth of the field through seven modules. Each module examines environmental concerns, associated land use planning and management goals and practices, and illustrative cases. Environmental planning is an important topic for those who want to be environmental planners, generalist planners, planners in all other specializations (e.g., transportation planners), natural resource managers, environmental policy makers, and professionals in many other environmental fields.

### Modules

1. Environmental planning framework and crosscutting methods
2. Watersheds, aquifers, and wetlands
3. Landscape conservation
4. Natural hazards and climate change
5. Soils, land resources, and land use
6. Sustainable settlements
7. Adaptive ecosystem management

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to

- Identify the environmental policy context of planning.
- Describe cross-cutting planning practices that can apply to any environmental concern.
- Explain different types of environmental concerns and identify specific planning practices to address them.
- Integrate knowledge and planning responses across different types of environmental concerns and policies.

Each course module has specific learning objectives. Use these to guide your textbook reading, studying, and quiz preparation.

The required textbook is *Environmental Land Use Planning and Management, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (2011) by John Randolph, Island Press. Additional optional readings will be provided to relate the topics to current events.

Our Canvas site will contain all course content, assignments, and grades. Recorded lectures, guest speakers, and other video materials provided in Canvas are required viewing. They will support the module topics and reinforce the textbook readings. Assignments will draw from all the course content and independent research. *The quizzes are based solely on the textbook readings.*

This syllabus is subject to minor change with advance notice to students.

I am available during the weekly office hours listed above. Outside of these times, Canvas email is the best initial contact to ask questions or arrange an appointment. If needed, you can also reach me at [kifrank@ufl.edu](mailto:kifrank@ufl.edu).

### Assignments and Grading

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Instructions</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
<i>Discussions</i>	Five discussions and peer feedback	10%
<i>Field trip podcast</i>	Conduct self-guided field trip, research, and create a short podcast to present to class	10%
<i>Quizzes</i>	Twelve quizzes based on the textbook readings, open-book	24%
<i>Environmental planning meeting</i>	View a virtual environmental planning meeting open to the public and describe in a short report.	10%
<i>Case study presentation</i>	As a small group give a recorded presentation of an environmental planning case.	20%
<i>Plan evaluation</i>	Evaluate an environmental plan using each course module.	26%

An “A” grade requires demonstration of a solid understanding and application of the course topics, reflection and analysis, clear and compelling communication, proper citations and references, and timely submittal. A “B” grade is basically sound, but has a deficiency in one of the areas 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 an additional 10% for each week they are late. *Makeup work* is allowed with acceptable, documented, and prompt reasons for absence, with communication to me as early as possible:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>. The terms of making up missed work will be determined by me in discussion with you.

The relationship between letter grades and numeric grades is: ( $\geq 94.0$ ), A- ( $\geq 90.0$ ), B+ ( $\geq 87.0$ ), B ( $\geq 83.0$ ), B- ( $\geq 80.0$ ), C+ ( $\geq 77.0$ ), C ( $\geq 73.0$ ), C- ( $\geq 70.0$ ), D+ ( $\geq 67.0$ ), D ( $\geq 63.0$ ), D- ( $\geq 60.0$ ), 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**

To request classroom accommodation, you must first register with the Dean of Students Office. They will provide documentation and assistance.

### **Student Honor Code and Academic Honesty**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. To read the Conduct Code: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

For guidance to avoid plagiarism and other Honor Code violations, see <http://www.correspondencestudy.ufl.edu/students/handbook/Plagiarism/PlagiarismAlert.html>. *I will screen all assignments for plagiarism using the text-matching tool Turnitin (<http://turnitin.com/static/index.html>).* You must submit work that is original to this course, unless it is used as a reference and properly cited. Guidance on use of AI is forthcoming.

### **Course/Instructor Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### **Getting Help**

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

To resolve E-learning technical issues, contact the UF helpdesk website at e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu) or call 352-392-4357

## Health and Wellness

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

## Academic Resources

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Online Students Complaints:* [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

## About Professor Frank

Dr. Frank specializes in planning and engagement for sustainability, resilience, and social equity. Specific areas include sea level rise adaptation, ecosystem and watershed management, regional planning, rural planning, collaborative planning, neighborhood planning, and youth participation. She is the director of the Florida Center for Innovative Communities, which focuses on action research to design and pilot test new community engagement processes. She previously worked as a planning consultant and

environmental engineer. She has a doctorate in City and Regional Planning from Georgia Tech and a master's degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon. Her undergraduate majors were chemical engineering and mathematics.

**SCHEDULE - DRAFT (see final syllabus on first day of class)**

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment due Thursday</b>
<b>Module 1 – Environmental Planning Framework and Crosscutting Methods</b>			
Week 1	Course overview and class introductions Intro to environmental planning Begin discussion 1 assignment		
Week 2	Continue intro to environmental planning Begin meeting assignment	Ch. 1-3	Quiz 1 Discussion 1
Week 3	Collaboration Geographic information systems (GIS) Begin discussion 2 assignment	Ch. 4-5	Quiz 2
<b>Module 2 – Watersheds, Aquifers, and Wetlands</b>			
Week 4	Watersheds, surface water, low impact Begin case study assignment	Ch. 7 (not append), 8	Quiz 3
Week 5	Aquifers and wetlands Water supply planning Begin podcast assignment	Ch. 9, 10 (342-363)	Quiz 4 Discussion 2
<b>Module 3 – Landscape Conservation</b>			
Week 6	Species and land conservation Begin discussion 3 assignment	Ch. 10 (317- 328), 11, 15	Quiz 5
<b>Module 4 – Natural Hazards and Climate Change</b>			
Week 7	Natural hazards	Ch. 13	Quiz 6 Discussion 3
Week 8	Climate change	Ch. 12	Quiz 7 Env plan meeting

Week 9 Podcast assignment self-guided field trip  
Begin discussion 4 assignment

### **Module 5 – Land Resources**

Week 10 Soils, erosion, agricultural practices Ch. 6 Quiz 8  
Podcast

Week 11 Integrated land use planning Ch. 14 Quiz 9

### **Module 6 – Sustainable Settlements**

Week 12 Sustainable cities Ch. 16, 17 Quiz 10  
Discussion 4

Week 13 Begin discussion 5 assignment Case study present

Week 14 Growth management and regional planning Ch. 18 Quiz 11 (Sun)  
Begin plan evaluation assignment  
*Thanksgiving holidays*

### **Module 7 – Adaptive Ecosystem Management**

Week 15 Ecosystem and watershed management Ch. 19 Quiz 12  
Discussion 5

Week 16 Course review

Week 17 Finals week Plan evaluation