Environment and Natural Resources 5211
International Environmental Impact Assessment
The Ohio State University: Spring 2016

Class Schedule:

Week 1: International law & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA);
Jan 12 & 14 The Systems Lens (M: Introduction)

Week 2: The US Model: NEPA & EIA;
Jan 19 & 21 The Basics (M: Chapter 1)

Week 3: International Organizations (IOs) & environmental impact (Overview);
Jan 26 & 28 A Brief Visit to the Systems Zoo (M: Chapter 2): Quiz 1

Week 4: International Organizations (IOs) & environmental impact
Feb 2 & 4 Why Systems Work So Well (M: Chapter 3); Quiz 2 (project diagram)

Week 5: International Organizations (IOs) & environmental impact;
Feb 9 & 11 Why Systems Surprise Us (M: Chapter 4): Quiz 3

Week 6: International Organizations (IOs) & environmental impact;
Feb 16 & 18 Exam 1: Thursday, February 18th

Week 7: The European Union & EIA; Guest speaker: US Department of State
Feb 23 & 25 System Traps and Opportunities (M: Chapter 5): Quiz 4

Week 8: The European Union & EIA; Project proposal due 3/3
Mar 1 & 3 Leverage Points – Places to Intervene in a System (M: Chapters 6)

Week 9: The European Union & EIA; Countries-In-Transition & EIA
Mar 8 & 10 Living in a World of Systems (M: Chapter 7): Quiz 5

March 14-18: SPRING BREAK

Week 10: Post-conflict EIA; Guest speaker: Afghanistan
Mar 22 & 24 Post-conflict EIA

Week 11: Post-conflict EIA
Mar 29 & Mar 31 Disaster EIA

Week 12: Exam 2: Tuesday, April 5th
Apr 5 & 7 Project presentations: Team 1: Brazil & Costa Rica: tropical rainforest & sustainability
Team 2: Belize: The Mesoamerican Reef & tropical rainforest

Week 13: Project presentations: Teams 3: Borneo, palm oil, & species conservation;
Team 4: Madagascar & biodiversity assessment; Team 5: Sudan & post-conflict EIA;
Team 6: Lake Chad & the water Crisis

Week 14: Project presentations: Team 7: Iceland, energy, & EIA;
Team 8: The EU: agriculture, energy, & EIA; Team 9: Australia & the GBR
Team 10: Oceans: EIA & International Law

*There is no final exam for this course.*
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Homework: 100 points
Quizzes: 100 points
Project: 100 points
Exam 1: 100 points
Exam 2: 100 points
Total: 500 points

Prerequisites: Junior, Senior, or Graduate standing

Credit Hours: 3 credit hours (UG, G)

Call Number: 29381 (U); 29382 (G)

Announcements: The syllabus is subject to change. It is the responsibility of the student to check for syllabus updates, announcements, handouts, reserve material, and reading assignments throughout the course. Much of this material will be posted on Carmen.

Textbooks:


Carmen: This course uses Carmen.

Instructor: Dr. Stacey Fineran; fineran.2@osu.edu

Location & Time: 102 Kottman Hall
T TH 9:35am – 10:55am

Office Hours: 322A Kottman Hall; By appointment

Mailbox: Located in 210 Kottman Hall
Course objectives
To discuss the development and fundamental concepts of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in an international context, including the environmental, cultural, and legal and institutional frameworks that have shaped EIA’s implementation in “real world” settings. To equip the student with the terms and concepts of EIA so they may effectively communicate with other EIA practitioners. To prepare the student to provide quality information to decision-makers through the use of project alternatives designed to avoid, minimize, and mitigate for negative impacts to the environment. Case studies of international significance are discussed in class and reviewed using individual and group study to solidify the student’s understanding and provide a forum for student involvement.

Make-up Work
Make-up for missed work will not be scheduled in the case of an unexcused absence (and in some cases, may not be rescheduled for logistical reasons). There are three situations that constitute an “excused absence” from class. They are: 1) students who participate in a documented University sanctioned event, 2) students who have a documented death in the family, and 3) students who have received documented medical attention for an illness. Students who will be participating in University sanctioned events must provide the instructor with a copy of the scheduled events and those classes that will be missed. This documentation must be on University letterhead, signed by the coach/supervisor, and given to the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester.

Late Assignment Policy
To receive full credit for assignments, work must be turned-in on time and in condition to be evaluated. Work with excessive deficiencies will be returned for resubmission and will be treated as if they are late. Late assignments will incur a deduction of 10% of the total point value for each 24-hour period (or portion) that they are late (including weekends). In-class assignments missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made-up or repeated; an alternative written report assignment will be scheduled for those missed because of an excused absence.

Academic Misconduct Statement
Academic misconduct (plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of misconduct as defined by the university) will not be tolerated in this course. According to Faculty Rule 3335-31-02 Academic Misconduct is defined as any activity, which tends to compromise the academic integrity of the institution or subvert the educational process. Please see the Student Resource Guide or the instructor if you have questions about this policy.

Disability Statement
Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs. Please contact the Office for Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in Room 150, Pomerene Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Personal problems or situational crises
A recent American College Health Survey found stress, sleep problems, anxiety, depression, interpersonal concerns, death of a significant other and alcohol use among the top ten health impediments to academic performance. Students experiencing personal problems or situational crises during the semester are encouraged to contact the OSU Counseling and Consultation Services (292-5766; http://www.ccs.ohio-state.edu) for assistance, support and advocacy. This service is free to students and is confidential.