

PSC 403A
Natural Resource Policy
Spring, 2009
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Office Location: WRI-A219
Office Hrs: Tue: 2:30 - 4:00 PM;
- and by appointment

Syllabus

The following books/publications are required for this course:

- Davis, Charles, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, Second edition
- Reisner, Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water
- UNLV Academic Printing Service, "Natural Resource Policy, Study Guide"
- Water Education Foundation, Layperson's Guide to the Colorado River

Your grade for this course will be based on the following:

- Mid-term Exam – 25%
- Final Exam – 25%
- Weekly Class participation – 25%
- Field-Trip - participation and write-ups **Or** Term Paper – 25%

EXTRA CREDIT: On an unannounced basis, the professor will give extra credit to students who are present on-time for the start of class. On any given afternoon you will know that this policy is being implemented when the words "ON-TIME EXTRA CREDIT OPTION IN EFFECT" appear on the board.

POLICY REGARDING MAKE-UP EXAMS: Ordinarily no make-ups will be given for exams. However, if extraordinary circumstances seem to require one, then students must do the following in order to qualify: (1) inform the instructor of the problem at some time **prior** to the exam itself and (2) provide documentation afterwards.

ERes: UNLV's Electronic Reserve Reading Service: **All readings other than those in your textbooks** are available on the internet at <http://ereserves.library.unlv.edu> At this site, input the bar code from your UNLV ID card and then simply follow the prompts provided by the system. If you have any questions or if problems arise, call the Library's Circulation Department at 895-2111.

CELL PHONES: Please be certain turn off all cell phones prior to the start of each class. If your cell rings during class you will receive one warning. After that you will be asked to leave class for the rest of the day.

DRC: The UNLV Disability Resource Center houses the resources for students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the DRC for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137. Their number is (702) 895-0866. For additional information please visit <http://www.unlv.edu/studentlife/drc>.

SAFETY WARNING: There have been attacks and car-jackings in UNLV parking lots. They have been more likely to occur during "evening class" hours. Be alert. Walk to your vehicles in groups.

FIELD TRIPS: There are four field trips associated with this class:

- Water Resources Field Trip – As a group, Friday, February 13, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Zion National Park (Utah) – As a group, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 27-29
- Atomic Testing Museum – On your own -- Anytime before March 10
- Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area – On your own, Anytime before April 28

Students are responsible for entry fees, travel, lodging, and other costs associated with these trips. Details on the field trips will be provided in the first class session.

Reading Assignments

<u>Class Meeting Date</u>	<u>Reading to be Completed by that Date</u>
January 13	- Buy the books
January 20	- Reisner, <u>Cadillac Desert</u> , pp. 24 - 51 - Reisner, <u>Cadillac Desert</u> , Chapter 3 - Davis, <u>Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics</u> , Chapter 2 - John Muir Biography, Ecology Hall of Fame
January 27	- Reisner, <u>Cadillac Desert</u> , Chapter 2 Payment due for Water Resources Field Trip (Exact amount to be announced Jan 20)
February 3	- Reisner, <u>Cadillac Desert</u> , chapter 4 - <u>Layperson's Guide to the Colorado River</u> - Federal Water Projects in the West (Bliese, <u>Greening of Cons. America</u>)
February 10	- Reisner, <u>Cadillac Desert</u> , chapter 8 - Arizona Returns To The Desert, Jenkins, <u>High Country News</u> - Cold War Toxin Seeps Into Western Water - What's Awash in the Wash? - "Hoover Dam" Print from ERes and <u>bring to class</u> (not necessary to read it first) - This is three days before the Water Resources Field Trip
February 17	- From Growing Crops to Growing Cities - <u>Layperson's Guide to Water Marketing</u> , pp. 2 - 11` - L. A. Bets on the Farm, <u>High Country News</u> - Water Policy in a Time of Drought - Other: Due Date for Water Resources Field Trip Paper
Feb 24	- Mid-term (Water Policy) Exam - All materials through February 17 - Other: Payment due for Zion National Park Field Trip (Exact amount to be announced by Feb 10)

- March 3
- The Big Blowup, High Country News
 - The Anatomy of Fire, High Country News
 - As Costs of Wildfire Grow, So Does A Question: Who Should Pay?
 - Fire Wars - Just print this piece and bring it to class.
- March 10
- Davis, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, Chapters 1 & 4
 - Forest Policy Transformed Again: USFS Under Bush
 - The U.S. Forest Service (Bliese, Greening of Cons. America)
 - **Other: Due Date for Atomic Testing Museum Paper**
- March 17
- Davis, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, chapter 8, National Parks Policy
 - Wilderness Preservation Policy: The Cases of Yosemite Park and Jackson Hole, Gonzalez, Corporate Power and the Environment
- March 24
- Zion National Park, General Management Plan, pp. 1- 49.
This is three days before the Zion Field trip
- March 31
- Davis, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, Chapter 5 - Politics and Public Rangeland Policy
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bliese, Greening of Cons. America
 - Wild, Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act (WFRHBA), Donahue
 - Kleppe v. New Mexico, Donahue
 - Gas Industry Gets Cracking, High Country News
- April 7
- Spring Break
- April 14
- Mining, (Bliese, Greening of Cons America)
 - General Mining Law of 1872, Donahue
 - Can Congress Drag the 1872 Mining Law into the 21st Century?
 - Davis, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, pp: 231-237 (CH 10)
 - The Colorado River and the Endangered Species Act (ESA),
 - Adler, Restoring Colorado River Ecosystems, pages 177 - 182, only
 - **Other: Due Date for Zion Field Trip Paper**

- April 21
- Davis, Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, pp: 197-201 (CH9) and 208-211 (CH 9)
 - Getting the Lead Out, High Country News
 - Lessons From The Wolf
 - Home On The Range: A Corridor for Wildlife
- April 28
- Fourth Sagebrush Rebellion (Donahue)
 - Rebels With A Lost Cause, High Country News
 - look for information about the main political organizations and people in this field, not the policies or names of court cases, etc
 - **Other: Due Date for Red Rock NCA Paper**
- May 5
- Final Exam - All material since March 3