

GEOGRAPHY 3334 – WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

SOUTHWEST TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SPRING 2002

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Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Mondays and Wednesdays or by appointment

Class Time: 1:00 PM – 1:50 PM Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays

Classroom: Evans Liberal Arts (ELA) Building, Room 311

Course Line Number: 231484

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Water resources are among the most important and most disputed issues that affect the public today. This critical role is the result of the fact that water is absolutely necessary for almost all economic activities, is the habitat for legally protected species, and is one of the most valuable and desirable aesthetic resources. In this course we will study water resources from both the natural science and human management perspectives. On account of the importance of water resources and the fact that a working knowledge of water resources is required for many environmental professional positions, this will be a rigorous course that will provide you with professional experience in water resources. You will access professional water resources data, analyze these data, and then generate professional-type reports on these data.

This course is an introduction to use, conservation, and management of water resources. It will discuss the geographic imbalance between the demand for fresh water and its supply. The course emphasis is on Texas water rights and water districts, environmental and developmental impacts, flood hazard, surface and subsurface water resources, and policy assessment for future water management strategies.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

GEO 2410, Physical Environment, ENG 1310 and 1320, MATH 1315

COURSE MATERIALS

Readings for this class will be from the textbook, *Water in Environmental Planning* (1978) by Thomas Dunne and Luna Leopold. In addition, the second half of the class will include readings that will be placed on reserve in the library. These readings are from two primary sources:

Getches, David H., 1997, *Water Law in a Nutshell* (3rd Edition)

Kaiser, Ronald A., 1986, *Handbook of Texas Water Law: Problems and Needs*

EVALUATION AND GRADING POLICIES

I will evaluate your performance and assign grades based on two major areas of work in this course. First, I will assess your knowledge of the lecture material with three examinations (two midterms and a final). Second, your performance on four class assignments is also used to evaluate your final grade.

All students are expected to take exams at the scheduled time. In the event this is impossible you must contact the instructor as far in advance as possible to determine if other arrangements will be permitted. Make up exams may or may not be permitted at the discretion of the instructor and, if permitted: 1) the format of the exam may be changed, and 2) the possible points earned may be significantly reduced. If exams are not taken at the scheduled time, the following policies apply.

Situation 1, Anticipated Absence During a Scheduled Exam. Personally notify the instructor as far in advance as possible to determine if the reason is acceptable and a make up exam will be permitted. Failure to notify the instructor in advance will result in forfeiture of make up privilege. Examples of acceptable excuses include documented illness and doctor appointments that cannot be scheduled at any other time. Examples of unacceptable excuses include attending social functions and early departures for holidays.

Situation 2, An Extreme, Unavoidable Catastrophe Occurs Immediately Preceding the Scheduled Exam Which Makes it Impossible to Take the Exam. Examples include being involved in an automobile accident, or other unexpected circumstances beyond the student's control. In such cases, notify the instructor as soon as possible and bring in documentation of the incident so that the instructor may make arrangements for a make up as soon as possible. ***Situation 3, No Acceptable Excuse Exists –***

No Shows = No Make Up.

The four class assignments will provide you with “hands on” experience in water resources, and thus are worth 52% of your total grade. The assignments will focus on analysis of a Texas watershed and its processes. Students may choose to complete the assignments by themselves or with one teammate. Under no circumstances will no more than two people be allowed on a team. Late work will be accepted but there will be a 10% reduction of total points for each class session late. All submitted work is to be typed, neat, and presented in an attractive, professional manner following the format in Turabian or in the current format used by the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. Points will be deducted for work that does not meet that standard.

There is a maximum of 500 points for all of the lecture exams and class assignments. The basis for grading will be as follows: 80 points for each of two midterm examinations, 80 points for the final examination, and 65 points for each of four class assignments. The final grades will be determined based on the following rules:

A	≥90% (≥450 points)
B	≥80% and <90% (400 – 449 points)
C	≥70% and <80% (350 – 399 points)
D	≥60% and <70% (300 – 349 points)
F	<60% (< 300 points)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Good attendance in lecture is key to your success in this course. First, the exams will be based on lecture material. Second, class assignment schedule is fairly rigorous, and you will quickly fall behind if you repeatedly miss lectures.

If you must miss class or an exam because of an illness, a personal emergency, or some other extenuating circumstance, please contact me as soon as possible so I can make alternative arrangements for you (this is key). Of course, good attendance means

more than just showing up for class. Please read and adhere to the policy on classroom etiquette that appears below. These codes of conduct will allow everyone to participate equally as learners. Thank you for your cooperation.

CODE OF CONDUCT

In the Department of Geography, instructors strive to create an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect in which learning, debate, and intellectual growth can thrive. Creating this atmosphere, however, requires that instructors and students work to achieve a classroom in which learning is not disrupted. At the most basic level, this means that everyone should attend class, be prepared with readings and assignments completed, and that students pay attention. This means no conversations with friends, reading the newspaper, coming late, or leaving early. Such behavior is disruptive to the instructor and to your fellow classmates.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students having special needs/disabilities that require accommodations for successful completion of this course must notify both SWT's Office of Disability Services and the course instructor by no later than the end of the first week of classes. Failure of the student to do so may result in the necessary accommodations not being made.

SWT ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Learning and teaching take place best in an atmosphere of intellectual fair-minded openness. All members of the academic community are responsible for supporting freedom and openness through rigorous personal standards of honesty and fairness. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty undermine the very purpose of the university and diminish the value of an education. Specific sanctions for academic dishonesty are outlined in *SWTexan*.

Schedule by Week	Topics	Assignment
January 14	Introduction to Water Resources	
January 21	<i>No Class Monday (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)</i> Hydrology	
January 28	Hydrology, Cont.	
February 4	Hydrology, Cont.	Ex. 1 due Feb 8
February 11	Hydrology, Cont.	
February 18	Water Quality	

February 25	Exam 1 (Monday, February 25) Water Law	Ex. 2 due March 1
March 4	Water Law, Cont.	
March 11	<i>SPRING BREAK</i>	
March 18	Water Law, Cont.; <i>No lecture W & F (AAG)</i>	
March 25	Water Law, Cont.	Ex. 3 due March 29
April 1	Exam 2 (Monday, April 1) Water Economics	
April 8	Water Planning	
April 15	Water Supply	
April 22	Dams, Floods, etc.	Ex. 4 due April 26
April 29	Dams, Hydro-electric, etc. (No Class W,F)	
May 6	Final Exam, May 6, 11:30 am – 2:00 pm	