

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Catalog description:

A 10-day field course examining ecological and societal factors that create challenges to sustainable management of Alaska's natural resources. Topics include agriculture, forestry, fisheries, wildlife management, wildland fire response and management, energy development, recreation, and tourism.

Additional course description:

COURSE GOALS

The goals of the course are to:

- x Introduce students to the various natural resources sectors of the Alaska economy
- x Provide an overview of potential careers in natural resources
- x Examine regional differences in natural resource issues
- x Provide in-person observation of the issues
- x Provide an overview of the factors that create complexity in managing natural resources

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completion of the course, students will

- x Identify and describe major natural resource segments of the Alaska economy
- x Identify and describe ecological and social conditions common to myriad natural resource issues, and those conditions unique to specific issues
- x Accurately summarize opposing viewpoints regarding the specific natural resource issues examined during the course
- x Critique the foundations of opposing viewpoints, identifying those linked to a scientific basis vs values
- x Provide novel solutions to the issues discussed

COURSE READINGS/MATERIALS

N/A

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE

This is a field course with many stops outside. Students must be prepared to spend time outside in potentially inclement weather.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

This is a field course in which we will visit with professionals in various natural resources management industries/agencies. The speakers will present their role in natural resources management and issues they face. Each evening we will have group discussion that: 1) recaps the presentations of the day, 2) critiques the issues discussed, and 3) provides novel solutions to the issues discussed that day. A journal of course stops and a research paper are required.

COURSE CALENDAR

See attached.

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance throughout the entire field course is required. Participation in shared duties (e.g., cooking, loading vehicles, cleaning lodging facilities) is required. Respect of student's viewpoints is required as is respectful and courteous interactions with other students.

EVALUATION POLICIES

The course grade is determined by five factors

1. Participation in logistics (e.g., cooking, loading vehicles, cleaning). In professional field work, logistics are critical to successfully meeting goals and may be a component of employee evaluation. This course is no different; speakers have arranged their time around this course – at a cost to them – it is critical we keep to our schedule. Past experience with field situations could even be a job interview question asked of you. As such, your professionalism in assisting with course logistics will be a component of the course evaluation, counting as 10% of the grade. Evaluation will be based three factors: assigned duties (50%), other tasks (30%), and punctuality (20%).

	A	B	C	D	F
Assigned duties	Takes leadership, no prompting necessary	Leadership but prompting necessary	Completes tasks, but prompting necessary, lack of leadership	Minimal completion of assigned tasks	No participation
Other tasks	Consistently assists with tasks	Inconsistent assistance	Minimal assistance	Minimal assistance	No assistance
Punctuality					

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

As described by UAF, scholastic dishonesty constitutes a violation of the university rules and regulations and is punishable according to the procedures outlined by UAF. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating includes providing answers to or taking answers from another student. Plagiarism includes use of another author's words or arguments without attribution. Collusion includes unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of any course requirement. Scholastic dishonesty is punishable by removal from the course and a grade of "F." For more information go to

1. UA is an AEO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination
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