DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION
FOR 688 Natural Resources Administration Law

COURSE DEFINITION:
FOR 688 Natural Resources Administration Law
Shared Resource: FOR 488
Instructor: Robert Malmsheimer
Course Format: 3 hours of lecture and discussion per week
Prerequisite(s): Course in American government or American history.

SCOPE:
Level of Instruction: FOR 688 is an introduction to the law concerning the procedures, powers, and judicial review of administrative agencies responsible for the management of natural resources.

Content: This course is designed for students who want to work for: 1) an administrative agency, 2) a regulated industry, or 3) a nongovernmental organization that attempts to influence agency policies.

Major Concepts or Methodologies:
a. The course teaches students how administrative agencies function by analyzing agency rule-making, agency adjudication, disclosure of information by and to agencies, political controls over agencies, and judicial review of agency action. Students learn administrative law and how this law affects administrative agencies and their personnel.
b. Students apply administrative law concepts to natural resource law by examining natural resource law topics, such as public lands, wildlife, preservation and recreation, mineral, timber, and water law. Classroom discussions examine how agencies can (and can not) manage these resources.
c. The course also teaches students public speaking skills. Course discussions are Socratic discussions. Groups of students stand and spend 15 to 20 minutes discussing assigned readings with the professor and other students. Rather than teaching presentation skills, this course focuses on teaching students how to think and speak on their feet.

FOR 688 is a shared resource with FOR 488. To fulfill the graduate requirement and to illustrate an understanding of the principles of administrative and natural resources law, graduate students must write a research term paper that analyzes critically a proposed or existing natural resources statute or regulation. The paper must critically analyze the proposed or existing natural resources statute or regulation, focusing on its impact on how agencies manage natural resources. In addition, graduate students’ midterm and final exam question answers must be more detailed and demonstrate a greater ability to apply course concepts to hypothetical fact scenarios. This course is taught at the same time as FOR 488.

Relation to curriculum or to other ESF or Syracuse University courses:
This course builds upon basic administrative agency concepts developed in other courses especially American government and American history courses. The course develops the knowledge and skills students need to work for natural resource administrative agencies or organizations that interact with these agencies. The course complements policy courses such as FOR 364: Soil and Water Conservation Policy, FOR 465: Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, and FOR 753: Advanced Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, as well as ENS 550: Environmental Impact Analysis. This is a shared resource course with FOR 488.
OBJECTIVES:
After completing this course the student will be able to:
   a. Describe and apply the major concepts of administrative law and natural resources law,
   b. Explain how laws and the legal system affect natural resources and natural resources management,
   c. Recognize the structure of a legal case and analyze cases to find legal principles, and
   d. Engage in Socratic dialogues with professors and make impromptu presentations.

INSTRUCTIONAL FORMAT AND MATERIALS:
Format: Lectures with class discussions.
Materials: Overhead projector, blackboard, projection equipment for displaying computer output (e.g., PowerPoint presentations and Internet websites).

INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED (INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT):
This course requires a classroom with an overhead projector, blackboard or dry-erase board, projection equipment for displaying computer output (e.g., PowerPoint presentation, internet websites). The library resources needed for this course (e.g., federal and state natural resource statutes, regulations, and law reviews) are available at Barclay Law Library and Moon Library. Duplication resources of approximately 250 pages per student. Enrollment is estimated to be between 8 and 15 students.

HEALTH AND SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:

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<th>Conditions or situations present in association with the course?</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<td>1. Will substances with any of the following properties be used during instruction: flammability, toxicity, corrosivity, reactivity, registered pesticide, legally controlled, or other characteristics with the potential to cause harm or injury?</td>
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<td>2. Will any physical hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., machines that need safety guards; razor blades or syringes; compressed gases, etc.).</td>
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<td>3. Will any biological hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., handling animals (rabies or hantavirus); cultures or stocks of infectious agents (fungal spores, viruses, bacteria, etc.).)</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>4. Will any radiation hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., radioisotopes, X-rays, ultraviolet rays, lasers, etc.).</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>5. Will any electrical equipment that, due to its design, location, or method of use, pose any threat to safety during instruction? (Give considerable thought to electrical use outdoors, or any potentially wet location.).</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>6. Will there be any personal safety issues related to the class? (e.g., due to time of day or location, at the end of any organized class exercise, will students be in danger of physical assault, etc.).</td>
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<td>X</td>
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Health and Safety Considerations Narrative:
This is a classroom course. No hazardous conditions or health and safety issues are anticipated.

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<th>7. Will any students be driving official State or research sponsored land or water vehicles during any class or instructional exercise?</th>
<th>X</th>
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<td>8. Will any type of personal protective equipment be necessary during class exercises? (e.g., hard-hats, eye/face protection, hearing protection, hand/foot protection, lab coat, visibility clothing, etc.)</td>
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**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

FOR 688 Natural Resources Administration Law (3)

Introduction to the law concerning procedures, powers, and judicial review of public agencies responsible for the management of natural resources. Analysis of agency rule-making, agency adjudication, disclosure of information, political controls over agencies, and judicial review of agency action. Examination of natural resource law topics including public lands, wildlife, preservation and recreation, mineral, timber, and water law. Research paper required. Spring

This is a shared resource course with FOR 488. *Credit will not be granted for FOR 488 and FOR 688 (both undergraduate and graduate versions of the same course).*

Prerequisite(s): Course in American government or American history.

**COURSE HISTORY:**

This course was approved by the Faculty on May 7, 1968 as FM 558. The FM abbreviation was redesignated FMG in August 1973, as part of the computerization of College records. FMG 558 was renumbered ERM 558 by Faculty action on December 19, 1973, which approved the renumbering of many 500 level courses to conform to SUNY standards. The course was renumbered RMP 588 by Faculty action on April 1, 1975, and renumbered FOR 588 by Faculty action on May 29, 1986.

Last updated: Friday, December 5, 2003