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Time and Place: Section I (CRN10064) or Section II (CRN10065)
8:00 - 9:15 a.m. T,TH 9:30 - 10:45 a.m. T,TH
Whittemore 349 Whittemore 300
Final: 7:45-9:45 a.m. Final: 3:25-5:25 p.m.
04-MAY-07 05-MAY-07

Office Hours: Tentative: TR 5:00-5:30 p.m., Friday 8:30-10:00, **or by appointment**. (Office hours subject to change.) (Use e-mail as appropriate.) Available most M, W, F mornings.

Required Text A. Plater, Abrams, Goldfarb, Graham, Heinzerling and Worth, Environmental Law and Policy, Nature, Law and Society, Aspen, 3rd Ed. (Cited as **PAGG** on reading list.)
B. Geyer, Blackboard at www.learn.vt.edu. I will also add material to this site during the semester.

The text is available in the bookstore and on reserve in the Newman Library. [NOTE: The University Bookstore will probably begin returning unsold textbooks to the publisher one week after the last add date. Therefore, get your books now.] You are expected to read all assignments prior to the day on which the topic will be discussed. You will be called on in class to discuss the readings. The course involves a large amount of reading, so keep up. I use a combination of lecture and class discussion. I will be adding overheads, class notes and other materials.

Evaluation

As the semester progresses, some modifications may be made by the instructor.

Evaluation:	1) Mini mid-term in class	75
	2) Quizzes/take home, 10@30 each (drop lowest)	270
	3) Final Exam	<u>205</u>
		TOTAL 550

- Final will be offered twice. With PRIOR permission you may take the exam at the other section's scheduled exam.
- No make ups unless university business or documented death.
- No make-up exams or quiz's without prior consent of the instructor. Approved make-ups may be oral exams at professor's discretion. There are no excused absences in my class. You may arrange for make up's ahead of time and with prior approval from professor. Discretionary appointments do not count. Sickness is an honesty issue. School activities and job interviews out of town are fair game. E-mail notification does not count.
- I will use a curve as established by the class to assign letter grades. The grades will include + and - as well as the alphabetical notation.
- Tests and quizzes will cover handouts, **readings assigned**, and lecture material presented prior to the time of the test or quiz.
- I reserve the right to add homework/quiz assignments.
- A class seating chart will be prepared. The chart is used to give you a name and to distribute papers.
- I bring class handouts and returned quizzes and exams to class ONCE. After class, handouts, exams, etc. will be placed in a box outside of my office. They are your responsibility to pick up. Others are not to pick up your exams.

Any student who feels that he or she may need an accommodation because of a disability (learning disability, attention deficit disorder, psychological, physical, etc.) Please make an appointment or see me during office hours.

A Student's Duty:

1. Read before class. This allows you to participate in the discussion.
2. Attend class so that you can:
 - a. Share your knowledge with the class and instructor.
 - b. Reinforce your readings.
 - c. Know what is expected for the next class.
3. Be on time. Don't disrupt your fellow students. If you are always late, please come but sit in the back.

This course meets *area 7 of the University Core Requirements*. This course has the following Area 7 goals:

1. Examine an issue or a group of related issues whose influence on contemporary life extends beyond the boundaries of the United States and significantly involves other societies, cultures, and geographical locations;
2. Develop an informed understanding of the context of the critical issues under study, including relevant historical, technological, cultural, and/or scientific factors;
3. Learn how to interpret and evaluate controversial issues of the day from several distinctive and differing points of view, using appropriate information from varied sources;
4. Relate contemporary events at home and abroad to the subject matter of the course;
5. Gain an informed understanding of the crucial national and international role played by technology with respect to selected critical issues;
6. Examine the role of ethical thinking and action in relation to issues in such areas as technological development, political policy, the environment, and social and economic patterns.

Course objectives:

In addition to area 7 goals, to be successful in this class, you should be able to:

- exhibit an understanding of the administrative framework of environmental law;
- research basic statutory and administrative authority for environmental legislation;
- understand the basic authority for major environmental laws;
- critically analyze technological and scientific issues and the law;
- separate fact and opinion, known and unknown, limitations of law and science;
- understand the relationship between environmental statutes, state and federal authority; and
- understand common law and statutory intervention in the area of the environment.

Honor Code: The Honor Code will be STRICTLY enforced in this course. All assignments submitted shall be considered "graded work". All aspects of your coursework are covered by the honor system. All projects and homework assignments are to be completed individually unless otherwise specified. Honesty in your academic work will develop into professional integrity.

The Virginia Tech Honor Code embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of the university and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the university community.

The fundamental beliefs underlying and reflected in the Honor Code and the Honor System Constitution are:

- that trust in a person is a positive force in making that person worthy of trust,

- that every student has the right to live in an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty, and
- that the honesty and integrity of all members of the university community contribute to its quest for Truth. (From Honor Pylon of War Memorial Chapel, Virginia Tech Campus)

The Honor Code is the University policy which expressly forbids the following academic violations:

1. Cheating -- Cheating includes the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of any unfair advantage on any form of academic work, or attempts thereof.
2. Plagiarism -- Plagiarism includes the copying of the language, structure, ideas and/or thoughts of another and passing off same as one's own, original work, or attempts thereof.
3. Falsification -- Falsification includes the statement of any untruth, either verbally or in writing, with respect to any circumstances relevant to one's academic work, or attempts thereof. Such acts include, but are not limited to, the forgery of official signatures, tampering with official records, fraudulently adding or deleting information on academic documents such as add/drop requests, or fraudulently changing an examination or other academic work after the testing period or due date of the assignment.

The Honor Pledge--- "I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance on this assignment."

The Honor Pledge is to be written out on all graded assignments and is to be signed by the student. In the absence of a written Honor Pledge, the Honor Code still applies to all graded assignments. The above items are from the Honor Constitution.

Technology: I will post all relevant class notes, handouts, readings and other material to Blackboard. (See above). I may send some items via the listserv and then post or notify you via the listserv that it will be posted. I will also assign current articles from the Washington Post, Roanoke Times and other sources. I would urge that you visit the site within 10 days of notification as most articles are free to view. Archive copies cost \$. The class *listserv* is moderated. That means that you and I can send messages to the list. I have tried discussion list before and some one *flames* and the discussion dies. I want discussion. Keep the profanity and name calling out of mail to the listserv.

Selected websites:

<http://www.roanoke.com/roatimes/news/news.html>
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/>
<http://www.epa.gov/> (EPA)
<http://www.usda.gov/> (USDA, Forest Service, NRCS)
<http://www.doi.gov/> (Interior)
<http://www.fws.gov/> (Fish and Wildlife)
<http://www.access.gpo.gov/> (GPO)
<http://www.access.gpo.gov/congress/index.html> (Congress, Congressional Record)
<http://uscode.house.gov/usc.htm> (United States Code)
<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/> (Federal Register via EPA)
<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/index.html> (Code of Federal Regulations)
http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/aces140.html (CFR, FR, PL, USGMANUAL, PRES. DOC.)
<http://www.cns.state.va.us/snr/index.htm> (Virginia Natural Resources)
<http://legis.state.va.us/> (Virginia Legislature)
<http://www.statelocal.gov/> (State and Local Gov. Links)
<http://www.vwrrc.vt.edu/vwrrc/vwrrc.htm> (VA Water Center and links)
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/global/legislative/congress.html> (Library of Congress site)
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/Welcome.html> (White House)
<http://www.battelle.org/environment/lcm/>.
<http://www.cato.org> (Conservative think tank)
<http://civic.bev.net/fonr/news.html> (Friends of New River)
<http://nature.org/>
http://www.conservationrealestate.com/menu_2.htm
www.mtlandreliance.org [Montana Land Reliance](#)
www.tnc.org [The Nature Conservancy](#)

