Texas A&M University
Departmental Request for a New Course
Undergraduate • Graduate • Professional
• Submit original form and attach a course syllabus.

1. This request is submitted by the Department of ___________________________.

2. Course prefix, number and complete title of course: ________________ ; ________________.

3. Course description (not to exceed 50 words): Analysis and critique of contemporary environmental analysis methods in current use; environmental impact statements; national policies; political, social and legal ramifications as related to development and use of renewable natural resources.

4. Prerequisite(s): ___________________________.

Cross-listed with: ________________

Cross-listed courses require the signature of both department heads.

5. Is this a variable credit course? [ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, from ______ to _______

6. Is this a repeatable course? [ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, this course may be taken ______ times.

Will this course be repeated within the same semester? [ ] Yes [ ] No

7. Has this course been taught as a 489/689? [ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, how many times? ______

Indicate the number of students enrolled for each academic period it was taught.

8. This course will be:

a. required for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., B.A. in history)

b. an elective for students enrolled in the following degree program(s) (e.g., M.S., Ph.D. in geography)

MS/PhD in Forestry, MS/PhD in Rangeland Ecology and Management

9. If other departments are teaching or are responsible for related subject matter, the course must be coordinated with these departments. Attach approval letters.

10. Prefix Course # Title (excluding punctuation)

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Approval recommended by:

[Signature] ___________________________ Date 10-6-98

Head of Department

Chair, College Review Committee

Date 10/7/98

Head of Department (if cross-listed course) Date

Dean of College

Date

Submitted to Coordinating Board by:

[Signature] ___________________________ Date

Associate Director, Curricular Services

Date Effective Date

Questions regarding this form should be directed to Sandra Williams at 845.8201.
Curricular Services – 11/07
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Ecosystem Science and Management 672

Dr. Fred E. Smeins
Ecosystem Science and Management
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

Spring 2009
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Ecosystem Science and Management 672
Spring 2009
(M 4:10-6:00, W 8:00-8:50)
(ANIN 317)

Instructor:

Dr. Fred E. Smeins
Ecosystem Science and Management
ANIN 317
Phone 845-5573
E-mail: f-smeins@tamu.edu

Learning Outcomes:

1. Appreciate the conservation/environmental history of the United States and how that has influenced current views, laws and regulations related to the environment and land use.

2. Be able to assess various approaches to environmental impact assessment

3. Be familiar with the content and purpose of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

4. Be able to prepare and review environmental assessments and environmental impact statements necessary for NEPA compliance

5. Be familiar with the content and permitting process to comply with the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and the National Historic Preservation Act

6. Be cognizant of the myriad of laws and regulations that apply to environmental/land use issues and the professional approach to deal with these often contentious issues

Course Description:

Analysis and critique of contemporary environmental analysis methods in current use; environmental impact statements; national policies; political, social and legal ramifications as related to development and use of renewable natural resources.

Prerequisites:

Senior or graduate student status in a department dealing with environmental/economic/social aspects of environment/natural resource management.
Textbook and Class Notes:


All materials are available to be downloaded from elearning. Make sure that you have set-up your Neo account. Your Net ID and password will be the same for elearning. You can login to elearning through the following link:

http://elearning.tamu.edu

Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Graduates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Semester Examinations</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercises, Quizzes, etc.</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester Project</td>
<td>***</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500 points</td>
<td>700 points</td>
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Grade Scale:

90+ = A  
80-89 = B  
70-79 = C  
60-69 = D  
<60 = F

**LATE WORK/MAKE-UP POLICY**

If you miss a regularly scheduled examination, only written excused absences will be accepted as a pass to take a make-up examination. An excused absence means that illness or some other problems beyond your control prevented you from preparing for, or being present at, a scheduled exam. You must register your excused absence within 7 days of the missed exam. Exercises and reports shall be submitted on the due date; if late they will only be accepted with a written excuse.

For any other questions or concerns, please refer to http://student-rules.tamu.edu

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) POLICY STATEMENT**

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Department
of Student Life, Services for Students with Disabilities, in Room 126 of the Koldus Building or call 845-1637.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance will only be taken the first few class periods until drops, adds and other variables that may affect the final enrollment are addressed. Thereafter attendance will not be taken. If you are absent for an extended period you should notify the instructor of the nature of your absence.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do.”

For more information see the Honor Council Rules and Procedures on the web at; http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor

COPYRIGHT

The handouts used in this course are copyrighted. By “handout,” we mean all materials generated for this class, which include but are not limited to syllabi, quizzes, exams, lab problems, in-class materials, review sheets, and additional problem sets. Because these materials are copyrighted, you do not have the right to copy the handouts, unless we expressly grant permission.

As commonly defined, plagiarism consists of passing off as one’s own the ideas, words, writing, etc., which belong to another. In accordance with this definition, you are committing plagiarism if you copy the work of another person and turn it in as your own, even if you should have the permission of that person. Plagiarism is one of the worst academic sins, for the plagiarist destroys the trust among colleagues without which research cannot be safely communicated.

If you have any questions regarding plagiarism, please consult the latest issue of the Texas A&M University Student Rules, under the section” Scholastic Dishonesty.”
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
Ecosystem Science and Management 672
Spring 2008
3 Credits

M 4:10 – 6:00 p.m. W 8:00 – 8:50 a.m.

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction, Requirements, Projects, Issues

What is Environment Impact Assessment?

Evolution of Conservation/Environmental Laws and Regulations, Agencies, Significant Events

Conservation/Environment Laws, etc.

NEPA – Chapter 1

NEPA – Chapter 2

NEPA – Chapter 3

NEPA – Chapter 3, 4

NEPA – Chapter 4

NEPA – Chapter 5

NEPA – Chapter 5

Endangered Species Act –
Laws, Regulations, Permits
Dawn Whitehead, Chris Best, Allison Arnold
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Austin, TX

Examination No. 1

Cultural/Historical/Archeological Resources –
Laws, Regulations, Permit

Return Examination No. 1
Finish Cultural/Historical

Wetland Delineation/Waters of the U.S.
James Thomas
HDR Engineering, Inc.
Dallas, TX

Follow-up to Waters of the U.S.

Wetland Laws, Regulations, Permitting Process, Recent Developments
Matt Stahman, Thomas Sankey
SWCA Environmental Consultants, Houston, TX

Water Rights-Laws, Regulations, Permits
Ronald Kaiser, RPTS, TAMU

Phase I Assessments

Examination No. 2

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES)
Christina Frankenfield – Compliance Resources, Austin, TX
Sally Brennan – C Falkner Engineering, Austin, TX

NPDES Continued

Graduate Student Presentation
Ethanol – Environmental Issues, Laws, Regulations

TBA

Graduate Student Presentation
Mitigation – Processes, Approaches, Problems

Final Examination