

WFSC 641: Sustainable Military Land Management (3 hrs) **Syllabus - Fall 2019**

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Course Description

Graduate course reviewing and providing an overview of Department of Defense (DoD) lands within a temporal, geographic, and environmental context and perspective. Students will gain knowledge of natural resource management and military land sustainability by reviewing (1) military land uses and training/test requirements, (2) major policies/laws impacting training/testing activities on DoD lands, and (3) planning approaches to military sustainability. This course is the foundation course for the graduate certificate in military sustainability. For more information, go to <http://militarysustainability.org>.

Learning Outcomes

At the completion of this course students will 1) describe military land acquisition history and the influence of past management practices, 2) identify major policies and laws impacting military land use and areas critical to mission sustainment, and 3) examine management strategies important for sustaining installations and ranges.

Meeting with Instructor

Send an email request to schedule an individual meeting with instructor(s).

Course Meeting Time (on line)

Wednesdays, 6-7 pm (Central Time) – WebEx.

WebEx is a Web Meeting and Conferencing application. You do not need a login account to join or participate in WebEx. You will be sent an invitation with a web link prior to the first class. Click the link to open the meeting web page. When the event starts click the Join button. The first time you join a WebEx meeting you will see a message and instructions on adding WebEx to your computer. The message varies depending on your computer and web browser but the process is the same. Follow the instructions to add WebEx. You will only have to do this once. For additional information and support, please visit: <http://www.webex.com/support/getting-started.html>.

Attendance

Being a distance education course, there is no class room attendance. It is the student's responsibility to keep up with the weekly modules, readings, discussions, and quizzes. A weekly checklist is available for each topic (see below). Given the self-paced nature of the course, it is possible to get ahead of schedule if needed. Late work and lack of attendance will not be accepted unless provided a university approved excuse (see Student Rule 7 for details: <http://student-rules.tamu.edu/>). The student is responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to the instructor to substantiate the reason for the absence. The fact that these are university-excused absences does not relieve the student of responsibility for prior notification and documentation. Failure to notify and/or document properly may result in an unexcused absence. Falsification of documentation is a

violation of the Honor Code. If an absence is excused, the instructor will provide the student with an opportunity to make up for missed class time via a satisfactory alternative assignment that contributes to the final grade by a date agreed upon by the student and instructor.

Delivery and Prerequisites

Course is web-based and part of a series of graduate courses supporting the *Certificate in Military Land Sustainability* (<http://militarysustainability.org>). All course material may be found on the course website. Video lectures from instructor and guest speakers, web based discussions, assigned readings, weekly participation, and exams will shape the course curriculum. A personal computer, high-speed internet connection, and Windows XP OS or higher are required for this course. Course enrollment requires graduate classification or instructor approval (3 credit hours).

Participation and Grading

Grades will be assigned from A through F with a plus or minus system consistent with the TAMU policy. Students are expected to review online lectures and readings prior to weekly meeting time/group discussions via WebEx. An outline of the course grade distribution is provided in Table 1.

Examination

Administered mid-term will be short answer/essay and cover assigned readings, lectures and group discussions. The exam will be comprehensive and administered via email.

Class project

Class final project will be a written 4-6-page essay accompanied with PowerPoint summary of the paper. Students will be expected to speak with a military land manager to accomplish two objectives, 1) describe the unique relationship between natural resources and national defense using your specific installation’s mission and 2) discuss these five questions relative to that same installation; 1) Why the military tests weapon systems and trains troops (relevant to your installation, 2) How they do that, 3) How land, air, and sea space are vital contributors to that test and training mission, 4) How encroachment affects that mission (at your installation), and 5) How the Department of Defense addresses one of the specific encroachment challenges at your selected installation.

Written Assignments

Students will also be assigned a Primer reading to review and required to prepare an abstract and list of discussion questions to be used during the weekly class lecture. Each student will also be in charge of providing a synopsis for one of the weekly meetings. More details on written assignments will be provided at start of the course. Students may be paired with another student for the written assignments depending on class enrollment.

Table 1. Course Grade Distribution	
Course Activity	Points
<i>Examination</i>	
– Mid-term	20
<i>Class Project</i>	
– Interview Summary	10
– Project Paper	30
– PowerPoint Presentation	20
<i>Written Assignments</i>	
– Primer Reading Summary	10
<i>Participation</i>	
– Weekly class lecture and discussion	10
Total Points	100
A=>90 points, B=80-89 points, C=70-79 points, D=60-69 points, F = < 60 points.	

Participation

Student participation in weekly lectures and discussions will be graded based on attendance, participation, and demonstrated professionalism with fellow classmates.

Students will be allowed to have one absence from the weekly session without penalty. Every absence after that will be recorded as a 0 for that week's participation grade as opposed to a 100. For the week the student is responsible for leading discussion, they will receive a subjective grade for their presentation and facilitation.

Academic Integrity Statement

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat, or steal or tolerate those who do." Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the Honor Code, to accept responsibility for learning, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System.

For additional information, please visit: <http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu>

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement

The Americans 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 Disability Services, currently located in the Disability Services building at the Student Services at White Creek complex on west campus or call 979-845-1637. For additional information visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Fall 2019—Tentative Schedule/Calendar

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings / Videos	Recorded Power-point Lecture	Class Lecturer	Time
Military Land Use					
1 (Aug 26)	Course overview and introductions; Military perspective; Competing interests/scarce resources.	Benton (Ch. 3-4), Lomas (Ch 1-3)	Frank DiGiovanni	Bruce Beard	5 hrs
2 (Sept. 2)	Historic, current, and future use of military lands (to include air, water, frequency) and military geographies	Lomas (Ch. 4-6), Major Range and Test Facility Base Video, Ft. Riley Training Video	Fred Pease	Bruce Beard, Bruce Hill	5 hrs
3 (Sept. 9)	Mission requirements, types of land use, and stewardship responsibilities; Installation organization/administration	Lomas (Ch 7-9), USMC Encroachment Video	Phil Huber	Bruce Beard	5 hrs
Land Use Policy					
4 (Sept. 16)	Biodiversity and conservation on military lands	Benton (Ch. 1-2)	Doug Ripley	Roel Lopez	5 hrs

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings / Videos	Recorded Power-point Lecture	Class Lecturer	Time
5 (Sept. 23)	Endangered Species Act	Endangered Species Act Benton (Ch. 6)	Anna Munoz, Jim Van Ness	Mike Brennan	6 hrs
6 (Sept. 30)	Sikes Act & Integrated Natural Resource Planning (INRMP)	Benton (Ch. 11)	Matt Kramm	Jim Van Ness	4 hrs
Land Use Planning and Partnerships					
7 (Oct. 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of Planning and Partnerships • Combat Zoning: Military Land-use Planning 	How to Succeed in Winning, Benton (Ch. 10), Collaborative Land Use Planning	Tad McCall	Bruce Beard, Dennis Hazel	5 hrs
8 (Oct. 14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) • Sentinel Landscapes Partnership 	REPI Primer, Working with Land Trusts Primer, Sentinel Landscapes MOU, NCSL Sentinel Landscapes Legislative Briefs, 2016 Sentinel Landscapes Report, Buckley AFB REPI Video, Camp Shelby ACUB Video	Kristen Thomasgard-Spence	Bruce Beard	10 hrs
Mid-term (Oct. 21)	<i>(Midterm Due Oct. 20th)</i>				
9 (Oct. 28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Conservation and Working Lands • North Carolina Sentinel Landscape Case Study 	Supporting Working Forests Primer, Working Forest Primer Conservation Districts Primer North Carolina Sentinel Landscapes Fact-sheet	Mark Steinbach	Bruce Beard, North Carolina Guest	10 hrs
10 (Nov. 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with State and Local Governments • Avon Park Sentinel Landscape Case Study 	Working with Local Governments NAC, Working with State Legislators – NCSL, Preparing for Duty, Avon Park Sentinel Landscapes Fact Sheet	Jan Larkin Michael Behm	Bruce Beard, Avon Park Guest	10 hrs
11 (Nov. 11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with Private Landowners • Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscapes Case Study 	Working to Preserve Farms, Forests, and Ranch Lands Primer, Renewable Energy Primer	Neil Wilkins	Bruce Beard, Camp Ripley Guest	10 hrs

Week	Lecture Topic	Readings / Videos	Recorded Power-point Lecture	Class Lecturer	Time
		Camp Ripley Sentinel Landscapes Factsheet			
Wks 3 - 11	Student Written Assignments (Class Lecture Summary and Primer Review/Summary)			Bruce Beard	18 hrs 2hr/wk
Wks 3- 11	Student Class Project Research and subject matter experts interview				27 hrs 3 hrs/wk
Wks 9- 11	Class Project Student Project Preparation and Presentations	Due Dec 1st: Interview Summary Project Paper		Bruce Beard	15 hrs 3hr/wk/3 wks