

Environmental Law
ES/PS 124, Spring 2008

1. Course Information

Class hours & location: Mondays. 6-9 p.m., DMH, Room 164
Instructor: Terry Trumbull, Environmental Studies Department
Office: Room 115e, Washington Square Hall
Office hours: Mondays, 4-6 p.m.
Office telephone: 408-924-5466
Environmental Studies Department Fax: 408-924-5477
Instructor's e-mail: terryt1011@aol.com
Instructor's law office telephone: 650-328-9081

2. Course Information.

a. Course Description.

Students will become acquainted with the role of law and lawyers in environmental issues. After an introduction to legislation, regulation, and the courts, students will learn the framework of regulation in specific environmental areas. Areas to be covered include air and water pollution, land use, solid and hazardous waste, recycling, natural resources, energy, environmental impact analysis, environmental health and safety, and international environmental regulation.

b. Course Format.

Students are expected to read the relevant portions of the textbook prior to class. Lecture will be minimized, but will probably take up 40% of class time. A portion of each class will be spent on analysis of current environmental issues. Experts in different fields related to the class will speak at about three class meetings.

c. Course text.

Kubasek and Silverman, Environmental Law (any edition is acceptable, but 2007 Sixth Edition is preferred).

d. What you will learn:

- How environmental issues are handled by elected officials, regulators, and the courts;
- How the Constitution is used to support and restrain environmental regulation;
- The names and responsibilities of key state and federal environmental, land use, and natural resource management agencies;
- How occupational and indoor health issues are handled;
- How international treaties protect the environment; and
- The ways that California handles environmental issues differently from the rest of the country.

e. Class website.

My lecture notes are posted at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/trumbull_law_classes/. There are some other files there, such as suggestions on writing for class. You must have a free Yahoo account to join the site and access the notes.

3. Course Requirements.

a. Grading:

Class participation/environmental articles	25%
Glossary	20%
Quizzes	30%
Final	25%

b. Class participation/Environmental articles:

For each class meeting, students are expected to bring a printed article on the environment or natural resources from a recent publication. Your article shall be turned in before the start of class. You are likely to be called upon if your article is on the subject of that day's class, while there is little chance that you will be called upon if the article is on another subject. Students are not expected to explain the underlying legal issues, but should be prepared to summarize the facts in the article.

Submission of an article gives you one point for class participation in that class.

Discussion in class of your article, or any other discussion by you in class, gives you a second point.

c. Glossary.

Definition of about 200 environmental law terms. Due on March 10. One extra point per class for early submission (maximum of five extra points), and one point deducted for each class that it is late.

You must type or print every word of your glossary submission yourself. You are free to work with others on the terms, but you may not copy or paste answers from any other source.

d. Quizzes.

Seven surprise quizzes will be given. Each quiz will be 5% of your grade, but the lowest score will be tossed.

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4. Course Schedule

Class	Date	Topic	Reading
1	Jan. 28	Overview of class; Self introduction; Federal and state environmental agencies.	Ch. 1
	Feb. 4	No class	
2	Feb. 6	Tour of federal courthouse, 2:15-5 p.m. 280 S. First St., San Jose. If late, go to Courtroom of Hon. Patricia Trumbull, 4th floor.	Ch. 2
3	Feb. 11	Environmental torts/Constitutional basis for environmental protection	Ch. 3
4	Feb. 18	NEPA/CEQA/Land Use	Ch. 4
5	Feb. 25	Air quality	Ch. 5
6	March 3	Water rights/Water quality	Ch. 6
7	March 10	Water rights/Water quality; Glossary due	
8	March 17	Environmental Health and Safety	
	March 24 & 31	No class	
9	April 7	Solid waste/Recycling/Controlling toxics	Ch. 7
10	April 14	Contaminated Property cleanup	Ch. 8
11	April 21	Energy	Ch. 9
12	April 28	Natural Resources	Ch. 10
13	May 5	Natural Resources/Review for Final	
14	May 12	Global environment/Review for final	Ch. 11

Final- May 19, 6 p.m., DMH 164