

San José State University
Environmental Studies
EnvS/PoliSci 124, Environmental Law, Spring 2017

Course and Contact Information

Instructor:	Terry Trumbull
Office Location:	WSQ 115 B
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Email:	terryt1011@aol.com
Office Hours:	Thursdays, 1-3 p.m., or upon request
Class Days/Time:	Three sections- M/W, 1:30-2:45, W 3-5:45 p.m.; Th 3-5:45 p.m.
Classroom:	Dudley Moorhead Hall, Room 164
Prerequisites:	EnvS 001 or instructor consent

Course Format

Faculty Web Page

Lecture notes are posted at trumbulllaw.weebly.com. There are other files there, such as suggestions on writing for class and a sample quiz.

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.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. describe how environmental issues are handled by elected officials, regulators, and the courts;
2. identify the provisions of the U.S. Constitution that are used to support and restrain environmental regulation;
3. identify the names and responsibilities of state and federal environmental and natural resource agencies;
4. understand formal legal writing (Appellate case evaluation);
5. describe how environmental health is regulated;
6. identify the major international environmental treaties and the limitations of treaties; and
7. compare how California environmental regulation is more stringent than that of the Federal government.

In each case, the assessment technique will be quizzes and/or the final, except as noted.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Kubasek and Silverman. Environmental Law (8th Edition, but any edition is acceptable), Prentice Hall.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Grading:

Class participation/ articles	10%
Appellate Case Evaluation	4%
Government meeting	1%
Glossary	20%
Quizzes	35%
Final	30%

Class participation/Environmental articles:

For each class meeting, students are expected to bring a printed article from a recent publication, including the internet. Your article shall be turned in before the start of class and must be on the subject discussed in class that day. If you are called upon to discuss your article, students are not expected to explain the underlying legal issues, but should be prepared to summarize the facts in the article. Discussion in class of your article, or any other discussion by you in class, gives you a point for class participation.

Glossary:

Definition of about 200 environmental law terms. Due at start of sixth class. One extra point per class for early submission (maximum of five extra points), and one point deducted for each class that it is late, but not later than the last day of class. 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.

Government Meeting:

You are required to attend a meeting of a local government body, planning commission, or environmental regulatory agency. Bring a copy of the meeting agenda to me signed by one of those participating in the meeting (i.e., commissioner, city clerk, councilmember).

Quizzes:

See class schedule for exact date of quizzes for your section. Seven quizzes will be given. Each quiz will be 5% of your grade. Environmental Health and Safety, Population, and International Environment will not be tested on a quiz. They will be covered on the final.

Appellate Case Evaluation:

You will receive an appellate case on an environmental matter at the first class, as well as specific information that you must provide in an analysis of the case. Your analysis is due at the start of the second class (see schedule).

Final Examination or Evaluation

University policy requires an appropriate final examination or evaluation at the scheduled time in every course, unless specifically exempted by the college dean. In this course, there will be a comprehensive final exam worth 30% of your grade.

Grading Information

A+ 96–100	A 93–95	A- 90–92	
B+ 87–89	B 82–86	B- 80–81	
C+ 77–79	C 72–76	C- 70–71	
D+ 67–69	D 64–66	D- 60–64	F < 60

Determination of Grades

See Course Requirements and Assignments.

University Policies

Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>"

4. ES/PS 124 Course Schedule, Spring 2017- Wednesdays & Thursdays, 3-5:45 p.m.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>
<u>Week</u>	
1 Feb. 1/2 Course review/Self introduction U. S. Constitution & the Environment	Ch. 1
2 Feb. 8 2:45-5 p.m. Tour of federal courthouse - 280 S. First Street, Fourth Floor, San Jose (Corner of San Carlos); Appellate case analysis due Feb. 9 No class	Ch. 2
4 Feb. 15/16 Environmental Torts, Quiz 1 State & Federal Agencies;	Ch. 3
5 Feb. 22/23 Land Use, Quiz 2 Environmental Impact Analysis	Ch. 4
6 Mar. 1/2 Pollution Control Model; Quiz 3 Air quality; Glossary due	Ch. 5
7 Mar. 8/9 Air and Water Quality;	Ch. 6
8 Mar. 15/16 Preventing Ground Contamination	Ch. 7
9 Mar. 22/23 Contaminated Property Cleanup; Quiz 4	Ch. 8
March 25- April 2 Spring Break	
10 April 5/6 Energy; Quiz 5	Ch. 9
11 Apr. 12/13 Water resources	Ch. 10
12 Apr. 19/20 Endangered species, Quiz 6 Public Lands; Mining; Forests	
13 Apr. 26/27 Oceans/Environmental Health & Safety	
14 May 3/4 International Environmental Law; Population, Preparation for Final; Quiz 7	Ch. 11
Final- Take at any of three times; all are in DMH 164: May 10 at 3 p.m.; May 11 at 3 p.m.; or May 15 at 1:30.	