

**Forest Resource Policy and Administration**

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107 Science II  
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**Schedule:** 1-2 MWF  
Room 202 Science II

**Prerequisite:** Forestry 451

**Required Text/Materials:**

1. Cubbage, F.W., J.O'Laughlin, and C.S. Bullock III. 1993. *Forest Resource Policy*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
2. FOR 453 Supplemental Course Packet – ISU Book Store

Forest resource policy and administration concerns human aspects of forest resource management. Forest resource policy deals with *processes* by which resource decisions are reached. These processes usually involve many *participants*, such as various organizations and interest groups, legislative bodies, and significant segments of the general public. Interactions between and among these participants lead to the development of *programs and policies* for implementation. It is becoming increasingly difficult for natural resource professionals to apply the best of their scientific knowledge and come up with the best decision or program due to interference by the public and/or other special interest groups. Therefore, the study of forest policy not only requires that we familiarize ourselves with forest policies and programs, but that we also look into the policy processes that lead to the development of these developments and programs. Understanding the integration of these three elements -- processes, people involved, and resulting programs -- can help natural resource professionals understand, effectively influence, and guide public thinking into desired policy directions and to gain needed support.

This course will focus on all three areas above. First, we will look at the political *processes* that distribute and allocate power and resources in the United States, the same processes by which policies and programs are developed and implemented. Then we will take a look at the *participants* who are involved in the policy formulation and implementation processes, including guides such as professional ethics. The third focus will be on examples of major forest resource *policy and program* initiatives resulting from the interaction of both the policy processes and participants.

Grades will be based on the following: three 1-hour exams (35%), written reports and other required assignments (30%, also see paragraph below), quizzes and class participation (25%), and a final exam (10%). Criteria for the written reports usually include technical content and accuracy, professional style and tone, appropriate structure or format, and correct mechanics and grammar. Scores for assignments will be reduced 5% for each day that an assignment is late.

Two of the other required activities for this course as mentioned above are (1) participation in the legislative breakfast at the state capitol that will be hosted by the Iowa Chapter of the Society of American Foresters scheduled on **Thursday, March 2, 2006**, and (2) attendance in a policy meeting (e.g., city council, conservation board, public meetings, etc.). Both activities require a report to be submitted within a week after the activity. The breakfast participation will entail only half of the day, at most. More specific information will be provided with respect to these assignments.

## **NREM Student Outcomes Addressed by This Course**

Among the NREM departmental student outcomes that FOR 453 addresses are the following:

- Anticipate, analyze, and evaluate natural resource issues and explain the ecological, economic, and social consequences of natural resource actions at various scales and over time;
- Assess, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate information fairly and objectively;
- Work effectively both individually and with others on complex, value-laden natural resource problems that require holistic problem-solving approaches;
- Communicate clearly and effectively with different types of audiences using appropriate oral, visual, electronic, and written techniques;
- Recognize and interpret resource problems across spatial scales
- Exercise life-long learning skills developed before graduation.

## **Course-Specific Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of this course, you will:

1. be able to understand the policy formulation and development processes and identify various actors and agencies involved in these processes;
2. be able to determine points of entry for resource professionals' possible involvement in the policy formulation and development processes;
3. learn various techniques relating to public participation, and relating to promoting changes during the policy formulation and development process;
4. be able to understand the relationships between and among various actors and agencies involved in policy formulation, development, and implementation;
5. learn the history of environmentalism, conservationism, and preservationism movements and their impacts on present-day resource politics;
6. be able to analyze selected cases on natural resource issues and explain implications on existing policy processes and administration;
7. be able to develop, explain, and evaluate your own beliefs, values, and behavior relative to professional ethics standards;
8. have a good grasp and knowledge of selected programs and policies and some applications; and
9. have participated (albeit briefly) in, and learn from, an actual natural resource policy formulation process as an interest group.

## **Learning Disability Policy**

Iowa State University complies with the American with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodation in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me soon. Please contact a Disability Resources (DR) staff to coordinate the accommodation you will need. The DR office is located on the main floor of the Student Services Building, Room 1076. Their phone number is 515-294-6625, TDD 515-294-6335, or e-mail [Bea Awoniyib at Awoniyib@iastate.edu](mailto:Awoniyib@iastate.edu).

## **Course Outline**

The following course outline is our road map of the various topics, materials and activities for the whole semester. It is possible that some deviations may occur during the semester that may cause some changes in this outline. Changes will be announced in a timely manner.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic(s)</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
Jan 9 (M)	Course introduction, Assignments	Textbook preface
Jan 11 (W)	Student experiences with natural resource conflicts & issues encountered on summer/temporary jobs. Cases: Texas forestry; Reintroduction of the bobcat	Chapter 1 (pp.3-10)
Jan 13 (F)	What is forest policy?	Chapter 1 (pp.10-22)
<b>Jan 16 (M)</b>	<b>No class - Martin Luther King Day</b>	
Jan 18 (W)	Policy and the policy process	Chapter 2
Jan 20 (F)	Markets, government, and forest resources	Chapter 3
Jan 23 (M)	Markets, ... (continued)	
Jan 25 (W)	Policy issues and formulation	Chapter 4
Jan 27 (F)	Policy analysis, evaluation, and implementation	Chapter 5
Jan 30 (M)	The legislature	Chapter 6
Feb 1 (W)	The legislature (continued)	
Feb 3 (F)	The executive branch	Chapter 7
Feb 6 (M)	The judiciary and the law	Chapter 8
Feb 8 (W)	The judiciary and the law (continued)	
Feb 10 (F)	<b>Exam I</b>	
Feb 13 (M)	Tom Isenhart -- The Conservation Reserve Program and the Stakeholders	
Feb 15 (W)	Interest groups	Chapter 9
Feb 17 (F)	Case 1 (Native Forest Network: Franken-trees)	
Feb 20 (M)	Case 2 (Resource management on a city watershed forest)	
Feb 22 (W)	Hot forest policy issues in Iowa	
Feb 24 (F)	Federal forest policy: Multiple use forestry and forest planning	Chapter 13
Feb 27 (M)	Federal forest policy (continued)	
Mar 1 (W)	Case 3 (Public involvement in national forest planning)	
<b>March 2 (Thu)</b>	<b>Iowa SAF Chapter hosts legislative breakfast</b>	

<b>Mar 3 (F)</b>	<b>Exam II</b>	
Mar 6 (M)	Case 4 (Evaluating development alternatives on a national seashore)	
Mar 8 (W)	Public ownership and management of land	Chapter 12
Mar 10 (F)	Public ownership... (continued)	
<b>Mar 13 - 18</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
Mar 20 (M)	Federal environmental protection and regulation	Chapter 14
Mar 22 (W)	Wildlife management and protection policy	Chapter 15
Mar 24 (F)	Regulation of forest practices	Chapter 16
Mar 27 (M)	Regulation... (continued)	
March 29 (W)	Environmentalism, conservation, ethics, and professionalism	Chapter 10
Mar 31 (F)	John Walkowiak, Iowa DNR – Iowa’s Forestry and Natural Resource Policies	
Apr 3 (M)	Environmentalism, conservation, ... (continued)	
<b>Apr 5 (W)</b>	<b>Exam III</b>	
Apr 7 (F)	Professional Ethics in Forestry and Natural Resources	
Apr 10 (M)	Preparation for Ethics cases – Jane Goodwin	
Apr 12 (W)	Case 5 (Ethics cases)	
Apr 14 (F)	Case 5 (Ethics cases)	
Apr 17 (M)	Public assistance for private owners	Chapter 17
Apr 19 (W)	Public assistance (continued)	
Apr 21 (F)	Chris Feeley -- Urban / Community Trees and Policies	
Apr 24 (M)	The mass media and the forestry message Bring examples of ads/media material to class	Chapter 11
Apr 26 (W)	Course wrap up, preparation for finals	
Apr 28 (F)	Course/instructor evaluations	
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Final Exam: Friday, 9:45 – 11:45 (tentative)</b>	