NATURAL RESOURCES LAW (LAW 651)
PROFESSOR GRINDSTAFF
Spring 2014

Meeting Place and Times: Room 204
Monday evenings, 6:00-9:30 p.m.

Contact Info:
Mobile Phone (618) 616-1987
E-mail: Sgrindstaff44@gmail.com
Adjunct Office by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

Required Materials: You must have:

1. Laitos, Zellmer & Wood, Natural Resources Law (2nd ed. 2012)

Other reading assignments may be placed on reserve in the library, distributed in class, or posted on the TWEN page.

TWEN: We will be use The West Education Network (TWEN) to communicate outside of class. You need to register for this course on TWEN during the first week of class and then check TWEN on a regular basis.

Course Outline: I expect to address the following survey topics this semester:

1. Foundations of Natural Resources Law
2. Land
3. Rangelands
4. Timber
5. Hardrock Minerals and Oil and Gas
6. Water Law
7. Wildlife
8. Recreation
I plan on using various interactive activities to help provide students with basic understandings of the major concepts in natural resources law. I will also use a simulation technique to help weave key concepts into “real life” scenarios where students can understand how complex natural resource topics can impact everyday activities, private and public decisions, belief systems, and legal practice.

**Assignments:** For each week of class, I will post the assignments on TWEN. You will be expected to check TWEN at least weekly for assignments and are responsible for any materials posted. For the first two classes, the following advance reading assignments are listed as follows:

Monday, January 13- Chapters 1 and 2 of Laitos. Focus on Sections I, II, IV, V, and VII of Chapter 1. Read the other sections for basic familiarity. Read Chapter 2 and be prepared to discuss basic concepts.

Monday, January 27- Chapter 3- Pages 126-196.

**Class Attendance:** Attendance will be taken nightly. Your signature on the attendance sheet represents that you have read the assigned materials and are prepared to discuss it in an informed and reasonable fashion.

Pursuant to School of Law Rule III.5(f), upper level courses like Natural Resources Law would normally be allowed up to three (3) absences. **However, in the Spring 2014 term, you will be permitted only two (2) absences.** This announced change is due to our missing one Monday evening slot for a holiday and the ever-present possibility of inclement weather on early semester Monday nights. In addition, some of our classes will feature interactive discussions on real-life simulations that require time together. These various pressures make this change necessary. I make NO exceptions for any type of excused absence. If you miss three (3) or more classes, the sanctions of Law School Rule III.5(g) will apply, including (after excessive absences) the possibility of failing the course.

If you are unprepared for class but would like to sit in (“note out”):

1. Do not sign the attendance sheet; and
2. Leave me a note before class begins with your name and the date.
If you “note out” an entire night, it counts as one of your two allowed absences in the class.

**Tardiness:** You are expected to arrive on time to class. If you enter class after I have begun lecturing, do not sign the attendance sheet. An evening on which you arrive late will count as one of your absences.

**Recording of Classes:** Each class session will be recorded by the IT department and the digital recording will be available in the library’s computer lab. You can watch a lecture if you were absent or you just want to hear our discussion again. However, since the IT department deletes the recordings after a few weeks, there is a short window for viewing.

You are prohibited from recording the class itself, and doing so is a violation of the honor code.

**Making Up for Canceled Classes:** We will not have class on the second evening of the semester (Monday, January 20th) in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday. We will make up that class with a “yet to be determined” shorter class period later in the semester plus an ungraded, out-of-class task. If we miss any other Monday, we will reschedule as necessary.

**Final Evaluation:** Your grade will be based on a comprehensive final exam given during the regular exam period. More details about the exam will be given later in the semester. In addition, there will be a semester-long simulation exercise that will generate a probable mid-semester written exercise (ungraded but mandatory) that each student must complete in a satisfactory manner in order to receive credit for the course. I will provide feedback on this exercise and will discuss as we near that point in the course.

**Classroom Etiquette:**

Since we will focus on an ongoing simulation to drive home key concepts, a civil and constructive interaction with one another is expected throughout the course. Noise-making devices will need to be silenced or turned off in general, and I expect everyone to give the class your full attention. You are welcome to use laptops or tablets for note-taking and class-related tasks, but other devices are prohibited during actual class time. I reserve the right to
ban any device that is disruptive or improperly used during our in-class activities.

**Technical Terms and Acronyms:** Our cases and statutes will use several technical terms and a myriad of definitions/acronyms that may be unfamiliar to you. I strongly urge you to be familiar with these as best as you can. One possible resource resides in the Laitos textbook index on pages 1222-1223.

**Meeting with Me Outside Class:** Feel free to contact me by phone (618) 616-1987 early in the mornings and after 4 p.m. on most weekdays or email me at sgrindstaff44@gmail.com.

No appointment is necessary, but if you want to make sure I’m around, an advance email is best under the circumstances. You may also communicate with me through TWEN.

**Emergency Procedures:** Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety’s website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency.** The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.