



UMass

Dartmouth

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY

Ocean Policy and Law

POL 663

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Course Goals

This course is an exploration into the subject matter of ocean policy and law. The goals of the course are to expose students to the interrelations between law and policy within the context of the marine environment. The course is divided into an initial understanding of policy principles, and then explores the unique legal context in which marine issues are analyzed. The hope is to give students a broad understanding of the unique legal requirements in the coastal and marine zone. Students who complete this course are prepared to analyze coastal/marine issues from a law and policy perspective.

Requirements

1. **Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. Attendance is monitored by online discussion responses. Each week, a number of online questions are asked in conjunction with the reading and written lecture materials. You are required to respond to these questions (called discussion boards) by the stated deadline. In addition, you are required to interact (comment on at least one other students response) in each discussion board question. These responses are considered your attendance and will form the basis for your class participation grade.
2. **Online Access:** Necessary course materials will be housed at “MyCourses” via your “MyUMassD” login portal. The username is password is *exactly* the same as your UMass Dartmouth email username and password. All of your online courses are located at this site.
3. **Outside Readings/Personal Interests:** Students are encouraged to develop a dialogue in the online setting based on outside readings,

experiences, or personal interests that are related to the subject matter. Because we are dealing with subjects of **public policy** (health, welfare, and justice), each student undoubtedly has personal experiences/viewpoints that will add to the discussion. You are encouraged to share such viewpoints.

Required Readings

Christie, Donna R, et al.: *Coastal and Ocean Management Law in a Nutshell*, 4th edition. West Academic (2015).

Handouts and Web-postings. **These readings will be provided throughout the semester.**

Optional Readings

Kalo, Joseph J., et al: *Coastal and Ocean Law*, 4th edition. West (2013).

Posted online, and suggested throughout the semester.

Student Behavior/Conduct

UMass-Dartmouth has developed a detailed student handbook to deal with various issues of student behavior. Each student should consult this resource for a better understanding of issues surrounding academic dishonesty. Any perceived negative behavior in this class will result in the student being reported and disciplined. I strive to treat each student as an adult, and will do so unless I am given a reason to act otherwise.

<http://www.umassd.edu/studentaffairs/studenthandbook/>

Course Assignments

Module	Topic
One	Overview of Policy Analysis Applied to Ocean Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Introduction • Stone, <i>The Policy Paradox</i> (Goals of Policy)
Two	The Coast - Public and Private Rights in the Coastal Zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 1 • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 1</i>
Three	The Coast - Public Access to Beaches and Shores. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 2
Four	Management of Coastal Resources - CZMA

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 3 (to pg. 105) • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 4</i>
Five	Management of Coastal Resources – Development, Wetlands, Sea Level Rise, Takings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 3, (pg. 105 to end of chapter) • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 4</i>
Six	Offshore Resource Management – State and Federal Rights, Oil and Gas Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 4, pgs. 153 – 202. • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 6</i>
Seven	Offshore Resource Management – Property Rights in the Ocean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 4, pgs. 202 – 263. • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 7</i>
Eight	Offshore Resource Management – Protected and Endangered Marine Species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 4, pgs. 264 to end of chapter. • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 8</i>
Nine	Offshore Jurisdictional Issues – International Law Considerations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christie, Chapter 6 • <i>Advanced Study: Kalo, Chapter 5</i>

Course Evaluation Measures

Component	Weight
Discussion Board Writings	50%
Course Policy Paper	50%

Discussion Board Writings – 50%

The discussion board function will be used to integrate weekly written-research assignments into a format that allows for publication of the writings to the class as a whole, and also allows other members to view and comment on the writings. These mostly weekly assignments will ask you to prepare a detailed written response (**about 2 pages double-spaced**) to a research-orientated question dealing with the materials presented in that week. Your job is to fully respond to the research question as prompted by the discussion question itself.

There will be a total of **9 interactions** where you will receive a maximum of **6 points** for each interaction. Each point is equal to 1% of your final grade (meaning each discussion interaction is worth something more than 5% of your final grade). The total potential points available is **54**, suggesting there are 4 additional points available in the discussion section that can aid in your final grade.

Your grade for the discussion interaction is based on the quality of your response given. If you fully research and answer the question(s) presented with insight, then you will receive full credit. If you fail to fully answer the question based on evidence contained in the materials and research undertaken, then you will receive a low score. I will attempt to highlight good examples of responses each week to guide students to the expectations in terms of quality for these weekly assignments.

Collectively your discussion board interactions will account for **50%** of your final grade in the course.

Course Policy Paper – 50%

The course policy paper is an opportunity for you, individually or collectively, to participate in the development of an applied policy research paper based on an approved topic in ocean policy and law. After the materials have been covered in the semester, you will be given the opportunity to choose a topic to apply the principles discussed; you can either work on the paper individually or in a group up to a maximum of four (4) students. With your chosen paper topic in-hand, you will spend the remainder of the semester working on the development of the paper under the following general guidelines:

- It must be no longer than 10 double-spaced pages of primary content, 12-point font. (The bibliography and title page – if used – is **excluded** from the page count).
- The paper must utilize the following format:
 - **Specific statement** of policy problem (identification of specific question that will be answered in paper).
 - **Identification** of **criteria** you will apply to answer the stated problem (including statement of **assumptions** made in the criteria).
 - **Application** of the criteria to the problem.
 - **Answering** the question, including statement of alternatives in answer if applicable.

- Your grade on the paper will be based on the following factors¹:
 - **Adherence** to the format and other requirements stated above.
 - **Clarity** of *writing and reasoning* used in application of criteria.
 - General **content** and **flow** of paper.
 - **Use** of policy frameworks described in the course to inform the **analysis** of your paper.

The particulars for the course paper will be described in greater detail on the course site itself and explained in more depth during the semester.

END OF SYLLABUS.

¹ If you are working individually on the paper, you will receive a single grade. If you are working as a group on the paper, then every member of the group will receive the same grade that is given for the paper.