

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW: AGECE 3523

Instructor: Elizabeth Rumley, J.D. LL.M. (Agricultural Law)
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Class: T/Th 2:00- 3:15
AFLS Auditorium (0107E)

Office hours: T/Th 1:00 pm- 2:00pm;
AFLS #B106C

Materials: All reading materials and assignments will be posted on Blackboard or handed out in class.

I. Catalog Description:

Principles of environmental and natural resources law relevant to agriculture, food and the environmental sciences; legal principles relating to regulation of water, air, hazardous substances, land, wildlife, livestock, and water rights. Principles of civil and criminal liabilities and other developing legal and regulatory issues relating to agriculture and natural resources.

II. Course Objectives:

This class will include a focused examination of federal and state environmental laws applicable to agricultural production and use of natural resources. An outline of the fundamentals of environmental law will accompany discussion of major areas: i.e., federal statutes such as the Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, Clean Air Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; state laws such as nuisance and right-to-farm laws; and other related areas.

The student who successfully completes this course will have enhanced their ability to recognize environmental and natural resources law issues related to those subject areas covered in class. The student will be able to identify areas in need of additional legal study, areas undergoing policy shifts in the local, state, regional, national, and international agricultural context, and areas in which close scrutiny of legal and policy matters can result in impacts to agricultural operations and the agricultural sector. Importantly, the student will have gained experience in reading and discussing state and federal case law impacting the area of environmental and natural resources law.

III. Class Attendance:

Class attendance is required and critical to success in this course. Students may have up to three “free” absences; four or more absences will result in a deduction in the student’s grade (see **Grading and Exams** below). A pattern of tardiness or leaving class early will be addressed and may result in an appropriate reduction of that student’s final grade.

“Excused” absences will ONLY be given in the following situations:

1. For *University events*: A faculty member must provide an email or letter before the missed class; or
2. For *all other concerns*: University administration must contact me within one week of the missed class period notifying me of the concern and asking for accommodations. **Absences because of illness must include a doctor’s note.** For all concerns other than University events, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (479) 575-5004 to inform them of the situation and to ask that they send the request. The case manager handling attendance issues is Nicole Ferguson (snfergus@uark.edu).

IV. Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating will not be tolerated. University rules provide severe penalties for academic dishonesty, ranging from course failure to dismissal from the University.

V. Students with Disabilities:

If you have special needs of which the instructor should be aware, please make appropriate arrangements through the Center for Educational Access (<http://cea.uark.edu/>) as soon as possible.

VI. Grading and Exams:

There will be a total of 400 points available in this class, broken down as follows:

Three exams @ 100 points each	=	300
Attendance	=	50
Quizzes	=	<u>50</u>
Total Points Available		400

Exams:

There will be two regular exams and one final exam. Each exam will be count for 100 points and the final exam will only cover the materials between the second exam and the end of the semester (i.e. **NOT** comprehensive).

Quizzes:

There will be 10 quizzes given throughout the semester that will occur at the beginning of the class. These quizzes will be based upon the information from the reading assigned for the class session for that day. Only the top 5 quiz scores will be used. The others will be dropped. Because half of the quizzes are disregarded, you will NOT be able to make up a quiz if you are absent for any reason.

Attendance:

3 or fewer absences	50 points
4-5 absences	30 points
6-7 absences	10 points
8 or more absences	0 points

VII. Emergency Procedures

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for specific emergencies such as severe weather, active shooter, or fire can be found at emergency.uark.edu.

Severe Weather (Tornado Warning)	Violence / Active Shooter (CADD)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnelSeek shelter in the basement or interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outsideIf you are in a multi-story building, and cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the buildingStay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CALL- 9-1-1AVOID- If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.DENY- Barricade the door with desk, chairs, bookcases or any items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.<ul style="list-style-type: none">DEFEND- Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.