

**Water Law, Policy, and Institutions**  
AREC 342, Fall 2011  
Colorado State University

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Instructor: Chris Goemans  
Email: cgoemans@colostate.edu  
Office: B-312 Clark Building  
Office Hours: Mondays: 2:00-3:30 and Wednesdays: 3:00-4:30

Course Website: RamCT

**Course Overview:** The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to the laws and policies governing the allocation of water throughout the United States; with particular attention being paid to the southwestern United States. Comparisons to alternate systems utilized internationally will be presented when relevant. Students will also be provided an overview of the institutions and parties that influence the allocation, administration, and development of policies (e.g. state and federal agencies, conservancy districts, utilities, etc.).

**Objectives:**

Students will develop an in-depth understanding of the following:

- Surface Water Allocation Law and Water Institutions at the Federal, State, and Local Levels
- The Fundamentals of Groundwater Law and Management
- Water Quality Law and its Interaction with Allocation Law
- Interstate and International Agreements
- Water Policy Design

**Textbook:** Required reading materials will be announced in class and posted online.

**Student Evaluation (dates are indicated on the schedule below):<sup>1</sup>**

5 Quizzes	100 Points <b>(25 points each; only top 4 quizzes count!)</b>
Midterm	100 Points
Write-up	100 Points
<u>Final Exam (cumulative)</u>	<u>100 Points</u>
Total	400 Points

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<sup>1</sup> Note: roughly 50% of your final grade is determined during the last few weeks of class. You are encouraged to regularly stop by during office hours to discuss your progress in the course, your understanding of the material, and anything else.

The cutoff points for the different grades are:

A/A+	372	(93%)
A-	360	(90%)
B+	344	(86%)
B	332	(83%)
B-	320	(80%)
C+	304	(76%)
C	280	(70%)
D	240	(60%)
F	Below 240 points (<60%)	

Exams will be administered only on the scheduled dates listed in the syllabus. NO make-up exams OR quizzes will be given unless the student notifies the instructor prior to the date of the exam that she/he will be gone for a University approved trip. Students missing exams due to DOCUMENTED medical reasons will be allowed to make up the exam. Substitute grading assignments will not be offered to those students who miss exams or quizzes. Reasonable accommodations will be given to those persons with documented disabilities.

\*\*\*You have one week after receiving a graded assignment or exam to provide the instructor with a written grade appeal. The appeal should identify which question(s) is believed to be incorrectly scored. Note that the instructor reserves the right to re-grade the entire work, potentially resulting in a lower overall grade.

#### **Additional Notes/Thoughts:**

- It is YOUR responsibility to be prepared for the exams and to understand what is expected for the written assignments. If you have questions come to me BEFORE the exam or the assignment is due.
- Cheating will NOT be tolerated. Cheating will result in a zero score on the exam/assignment and possibly a failing grade in the course.
- I will only respond to emails sent to my CSU email address ([cgoemans@colostate.edu](mailto:cgoemans@colostate.edu)) THAT INCLUDE THE HEADER AREC 342. The latter is required so that I don't miss any of your emails.
- Turn off cell phones!!! Please turn your cell phones and similar devices off before class! *If your phone rings during class or if there is any other disruption due to electronic devices (including checking your e-mail and surfing the web) then five points will be deducted from your total semester point score. If this disruption happens during an exam then 20 points will be deducted from your total semester point score!!!*
- If you are finding that you have difficulties in this course, ask for help as soon as possible. The instructor wants you to do well and meet your academic goals. The sooner you ask for help, the sooner you can get back on track.

***Be prepared to contribute in class. You will be expected to. So, !!!Speak Up!!! Class is more fun when you share your opinions/thoughts on the topics we are covering.***

Course Schedule:

	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 (8/23 & 8/25)		
Week 2 (8/30 & 9/1)		
Week 3 (9/6 & 9/8)	<b>Quiz 1</b>	
Week 4 (9/13 & 9/15)		
Week 5 (9/20 & 9/22)		<b>Quiz 2</b>
Week 6 (9/27 & 9/29)		
Week 7 (10/4 – 10/6)		
Week 8 (10/11 – 10/13)		<b>Midterm Exam</b>
Week 9 (10/18 – 10/20)		
Week 11 (10/25 – 10/27)		<b>Quiz 3</b>
Week 12 (11/1 – 11/3)		
Week 13 (11/8 – 11/10)		<b>Quiz 4</b>
Week 14 (11/16 – 11/18)		
FALL BREAK (11/22 – 11/24)	NO CLASS	NO Class
Week 15 (11/29 – 12/1)	<b>Quiz 5</b>	
Week 16 (12/6 – 12/8)		<b>Individual Write-ups DUE at start of class</b>
Final Exam 12/14: 11:50 AM to 1:50 PM		