

**Wildlife and Fisheries Laws and Policies**  
**BIOL 830P (Section 03), 3 credits**  
**Summer 2020**

**Department of Biology**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**University of Nebraska at Kearney**

**CLASS LOCATION AND MEETING TIME:**

This course is delivered entirely in an online format; consequently, there will not be any on-campus meetings. Also, there are no formal online meeting requirements for this course though regular check-ins throughout the week are highly recommended. Deadlines for all assessments are provided in Canvas in several locations (e.g., on the assignment directions, in the announcements, etc.).

**COURSE WEBSITE:** [canvas.unk.edu](https://canvas.unk.edu)

**INSTRUCTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Dr. Melissa R. Wuellner, Associate Professor

Office: Bruner Hall of Science, room 345

Office hours: On most days, I will be working at home over the summer months due to COVID-19-related changes in child care. I do check my email regularly while working and home and generally respond within a couple of hours during the weekdays and at longer time intervals on the weekends. But I will respond no later than 24 hours after receipt of the message. If you do not receive a response from me within 24 hours, please contact me again.

Office phone: 308-865-8006

Email: [wuellnermr@unk.edu](mailto:wuellnermr@unk.edu) or through Canvas

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Evolution of laws relating to fish and wildlife with a particular focus on major federal legislation, federal versus state jurisdiction, fishing and hunting rights, and other topics.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- 1) Describe the evolution of the Public Trust Doctrine in the United States.
- 2) Critically evaluate several important fisheries- and wildlife-related federal policies, including, but not limited to the treaties with Native American tribes, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, the Lacey Act, and the Endangered Species Act.
- 3) Identify jurisdiction (state, federal, tribal) in wildlife and fisheries issues.

**PREREQUISITES:**

There are no formal prerequisites for this course but this course is only open to those who are enrolled at UNK as graduate students.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD:**

This course is presented entirely online; therefore, good time management and self-study skills are critical to your success! Extra effort is often required in an online course compared to the classroom-based version because most of the work rests on your shoulders. Summer courses are more intense than fall or semester courses, as we are fitting 16 weeks of content into 8 weeks. You will be required to read or view the assigned materials (including the short lecture videos) each week. Most weeks include at least one discussion and/or a quiz or exam. Weekly course updates and reminders will be provided via the "Announcements" feature in Canvas. Communication with the instructor can be by phone, e-mail, or classwide-discussion boards. You are encouraged to use all three as frequently as needed.

You will be tested on your ability to critically evaluate, reflect on, integrate, and apply course information through written assignments and open-book "exams." You are welcomed to work with or share thoughts

about your assignments and exams with your classmates, but you will be required to write and submit your own original material.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

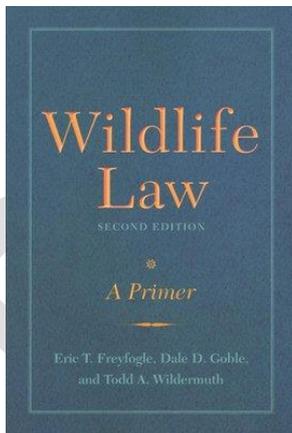
Students are required to complete all textbook or other assigned readings, view all presentations, and contribute to all discussions as scheduled. Assignments and exams must be turned in by the assigned due dates unless granted an extension prior to the deadlines. Students should make the effort to log into the class throughout the week rather than just one or two days, even if it's just a "quick check" of the discussions or announcements.

**MISSED ASSIGNMENTS/QUIZZES/EXAMS AND MAKE-UP POLICY:**

Any and all discussion, assignments, and exams in this class MUST be submitted by the designated deadline (see course calendar below) unless you and I have discussed otherwise. If you do not have an approved deadline extension, you will receive a zero on that assignment. Please note that computer emergencies (e.g., hard drive crashed, etc.) are NOT considered an excuse. You should always have an alternative means of accessing or submitting electronic information and course work. If you have an emergency (e.g., illness, death in the family, etc.), please contact me no later than 36 hours after the missed deadline to make new arrangements.

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

There is one textbooks for this course (see picture below). *Make sure you have the second edition of the book as pictured, not the first edition.* This textbook should be available via the UNK Bookstore but can be purchased through other providers (Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc.). All other learning materials required by all students will be provided on our Canvas course page.



*Wildlife Law: A Primer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*

Eric T. Freyfogle, Dale D. Goble, and Todd A Wildermuth

ISBN: 978-1-610919-135

Island Press

For research resources, please be sure to use the UNK Library (<http://library.unk.edu/>) as well as reliable online search engines (e.g., Google Scholar). You may need to access older articles that may or may not be available online. In that case, don't forget that the UNK Library does have the Loper Loan program (<https://unk.illiad.oclc.org/illiad/>) and may be able to provide some resources to you from other university libraries electronically at no cost. .

**GRADING POLICY:** Below is the current breakdown of the assignments and points for this course. Please note that these points may be subject to change but that those changes will be communicated with you in a timely fashion. Grades will be entered in Canvas so you should be aware of where you stand throughout the course.

Grade Item	Points
First Unit Exam	100
Final Exam	100
Quizzes	40
Discussions	160
Final Review Paper	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>500</b>

Grades in this class will be assigned according to the standard scoring system described below. Only by attaining these percentages can you be assured of receiving a desired grade.

<b>A+</b>	97 – 100%	<b>A</b>	94 – 96 %	<b>A-</b>	90 – 93%
<b>B+</b>	87 – 89%	<b>B</b>	84 – 86%	<b>B-</b>	80 – 83%
<b>C+</b>	77 – 79%	<b>C</b>	74 – 76%	<b>C-</b>	70 – 73%
<b>D+</b>	67 – 69 %	<b>D</b>	66 – 64%	<b>D-</b>	60 – 63%
		<b>F</b>	< 60%		

*Please note: If your final grade is within 0.5% of the next highest grade, your grade will be rounded up (e.g., an 89.50% will be rounded to 90% and considered an "A-"). This is the definitive cutoff for rounding grades. There will be no exceptions to this policy.*

**COURSE CALENDAR:** This is a *tentative* course schedule. If changes are made to the schedule, the class will be notified. Check the assignment directions, the Canvas calendar, and the “Announcements” page for due dates for discussions, assignments, and exams. Please note that this schedule is subject to revision as necessary. Changes to the schedule will be communicated in a timely fashion.

Week	Dates	Unit(s)	Readings	Discussions	Assignments
1	5/26 – 5/31	Wildlife Conservation History & Basics of Law	Chapter 1: The Basics ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)  2 articles on the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation	Discussion Post 1: Introduce yourself to the class (10 points; due 5/29)  Discussion Post 2: Thoughts on the NAMWC and Governance of Wildlife Systems (25 points; first post due 5/29; second post due 5/31)	None this week
2	6/1 – 6/7	Ownership and the Public Interest	Chapters 2 and 3 ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)  One reading on the future of public trust by Organ and Mahoney	Discussion Post 3: Privatization and The Public Trust Doctrine (25 points; first post due 6/5; second post due 6/7)	Quiz on the Basics of State Ownership and PTD (10 points; due 6/7)  Phase I: Submit topic for case law review paper (10 points; due 6/7)
3	6/8 – 6/14	Privatization of Wildlife First Exam	Chapters 4 and 8 ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)	None for this week	Exam #1 (100 points; due 6/14)
4	6/15 – 6/21	Tribal Rights to Wildlife	Chapter 9 ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)	Discussion Post 4: Tribal Hunting and Fishing Rights and the Keystone XL Pipeline (25 points first post due 6/19; second post due 6/21)	None this week

5	6/22 – 6/28	Key Federal Statutes (Lacey Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act)	Chapter 10 ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)	Discussion Post 5: How successful are the Lacey Act, MBTA, and BGEPA? (25 points; first post due 6/26; second post due 6/28)	Quiz on the Basics of the Lacey Act, MBTA, and BGEPA (20 points; due 6/28) Submit outline for case law review paper (25 points; due 6/28)
6	6/29 – 7/5	Inland Fisheries	Chapter 5 ( <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle et al.)	Discussion Post 6: What happens when a water changes classification? (25 points; first post due 7/3; second post due 7/5)	None this week
7	7/6 -7/12	Endangered Species Act	Selections from Chapters 11 and 12 of <i>Wildlife Law</i> by Freyfogle and Goble (posted on Canvas)	Discussion Post 7: What is the future of the ESA? (25 points; first post due 7/10; second post due 7/12)	Submit case law review paper (100 points; due 7/12)
8	<b>FINAL EXAM due by 11:59 pm Central on 7/17 (100 points)</b>				

**PLAIGARISM:**

Plagiarism is defined as using more than four consecutive words from a source without a citation. You may not use another's words directly without putting them within quotations. It is also plagiarism when either an author's ideas or organization of concepts are used without giving a citation. We expect you to use references for assignments given in this course and we expect you to cite your sources. Students caught plagiarizing will receive a failing grade for the assignment and will face additional punishments up to expulsion as outlined by University policy. I invite you to visit the online resource <http://www.plagiarism.org/> to make sure you understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR THOSE WHO ARE PREGNANT:**

Students with disabilities or those who are pregnant are encouraged to contact me for a confidential discussion of their individual needs for academic accommodation. It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities or those who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with UNK Disabilities Services Coordinator, David Brandt, in the Academic Success Office, 163 Memorial Student Affairs Building, 308-865-8214 or by email [unkdso@unk.edu](mailto:unkdso@unk.edu). For those needing accommodation due to pregnancy, you need to visit with Student Health. The following link provides information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights. <http://www.nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights-faqs-college-and-graduate-students>.

**REPORTING STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT, SEXUAL VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL ASSAULT:**

Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes she or he may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency: 308-237-2599  
Campus Police (or Security): 308-865-8911  
Title IX Coordinator: 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

**VETERANS' SERVICES:**

UNK works diligently to support UNK's military community by providing military and veteran students and families with resources and services to help them succeed. Veterans Services assists with the GI Bill process and acts as a liaison between the student and the Veterans Administration. If you need assistance or would like more information, please contact Lori Weed Skarka at 308-865-8520 or [unkveterans@unk.edu](mailto:unkveterans@unk.edu).