COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND OCEAN LAW
CMSS 6370
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences
Fall 2015

A. COURSE INFORMATION
   Course number/section: CMSS 6370.001
   Class meeting time: Thursday, 4:20 – 6:50pm
   Class location: Center for Instruction (CI) 128

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
   Instructor: Dr. Richard McLaughlin
   Office location: HRI 311 C
   Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 2:00 – 3:00 or by appointment
   Telephone: 361-825-2010
   E-mail: Richard.McLaughlin@tamucc.edu
   Appointments: E-mail to schedule an appointment

C. COURSE DESCRIPTION
   Catalog Course Description
   The legal and policy framework associated with the coastal zone and ocean environment. Public access to coastal lands and waters, public trust, wetlands regulation; international law of the sea, fisheries law, and marine pollution.

D. PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES
   Prerequisites
   None
   Corequisites
   None

E. REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S), READINGS AND SUPPLIES
   Other reading materials will be provided.

   Supplies
   None
F. INTRODUCTION, STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES, AND ASSESSMENT

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

1. Introduce the major topics in coastal and ocean policy and law through lectures, readings, written and oral exercises, presentations and discussions.

2. Provide an introduction to domestic and international law and how to engage in research on legal topics.

3. Describe the uses of coastal and ocean areas, technology and trends in use, and the major policy issues created by such use.

4. Explore how users of the sea and coast are embedded in ocean and coastal regimes and institutional arrangements at the international and domestic scales.

5. Identify multiple sources of information available to students such as specialized books and text, general books, periodicals, web sites, exhibits, tours and videos.

G. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND ACTIVITIES

The course is organized to provide students with a classroom experience similar to that provided in U.S. law schools. Students will be expected to read and discuss assigned judicial decisions, statutes, regulations, and secondary literature sources. Additional explanations and introductory materials will be provided so that students will have the requisite background to understand and apply the assigned course materials. The professor will engage in both lecture and Socratic teaching methods. Class participation and discussion will be emphasized and encouraged.

H. MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

Required readings are listed below. Students are expected to have assigned readings completed before each class. The readings provide the background and substantive information required to fully understand a particular topic and to allow students to engage in meaningful discussion.

Please note: Doctoral students will be pooled and graded on a different scale than Masters level students. In addition, Doctoral students may be assigned additional reading material and will be expected to be highly prepared and to significantly contribute to class discussions. Points awarded to students in the participation portion of the course grade will reflect additional reading and classroom leadership expected from Doctoral students.

Grading will be based on the following:

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of FINAL GRADE</th>
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I. COURSE CONTENT/SCHEDULE

Please notice this schedule is by weeks, not dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction and Shark Hypothetical; Tragedy of the Commons; U.S. Law and Policy</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>U.S. Law and Policy (cont.); How is Law Determined &amp; Found? Reading Law Cases</td>
<td>Handouts</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>International Law of the Sea</td>
<td>Read pp. 1-6; 19-39</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>International Law of the Sea (cont.) Western Gap</td>
<td>Read pp. 47-56; 68-71</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Taking Issues in Coastal Areas; Exactions; Nollan v. California Coastal Comm.</td>
<td>Read pp. 238-244; 334-347; 348-368; 364-383</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Public &amp; Private interest in Coastal Lands &amp; Waters; Accretion, Erosion, Avulsion &amp; Reliction</td>
<td>Read pp. 73-74; 125-142; 163-178</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Mid-term exam</strong></td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Beach Access + Video; Implementing the Coastal Zone Management Act</td>
<td>Read pp. 216-238; 249-280</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Regulation of U.S. Fisheries; Essential Fish Habitat</td>
<td>Read pp. 571-573; 596-599; 610-616; Handout</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Fisheries Management (cont.)</td>
<td>Read pp. 616-657</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Marine Mammal Protection Act; Endangered Species Act; Trade Versus the Marine Environment</td>
<td>Read pp. 745-766; 786-796; 807-817</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Offshore Renewable Energy; Offshore Wind Video. Course Review</td>
<td>Read pp. 490-509</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Guest Lecture: Dr. Fabio Moretzsohn Oil Spills</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/03/15</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam</strong></td>
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Note: Changes in this course schedule may be necessary and will be announced to the class by the Instructor. The assignments and exams shown are directly related to the Student Learning Outcomes described in Section F.

J. COURSE POLICIES
Attendance/Tardiness

Students are expected to attend all classes. However, students may have two unexcused class absences. More than two unexcused absences will result in a reduction of your grade by one full letter grade. All assignments are expected to be turned in on time. Unless the instructor provides prior approval of a late assignment, the grade for that assignment will be reduced by ten percent for each day that the assignment is late.

Extra Credit

Unless otherwise mentioned, extra credit will not be available.

Cell Phone Use

Cell phone use in class is not permitted.

Laptop Use

Laptop use during class is permitted.

Food in Class

Consuming food during class is permitted. Please be respectful of other students and the instructor.

Missed Exam

Make-ups for missed exams will not be given, except under exceptional circumstances with the written permission of the instructor.

Participation

Students are expected to participate during class as participation accounts for 20% of the overall grade.

K. COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES

- Academic Integrity (University)
  University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.
• **Classroom/Professional Behavior**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

• **Statement of Civility**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

• **Deadline for Dropping a Course with a Grade of W (University)**

The grade of W will be assigned to any student officially dropping a course. Please consult with the instructor before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Just stopping attendance and participation **WILL NOT** automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, visit the Office of the University Registrar for the Course Drop Form that **must** submitted. No student is eligible to receive a W without completing the official drop process by this deadline. Please consult the Academic Calendar ([http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/](http://www.tamucc.edu/academics/calendar/)) for the last day to drop a course.

• **Grade Appeals (College of Science and Engineering)**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules website at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage at [http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html](http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the
grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate
department or school, the Office of the College of Science and Engineering Dean, or the
Office of the Provost.

• Disability Services
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that
provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other
things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning
environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you
believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call (361) 825-5816 or
visit Disability Services in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access
issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office
for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

http://disabilityservices.tamucc.edu/

• Statement of Academic Continuity
In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes
could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi;
this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition,
the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course.
Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be
operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However,
students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a
secondary means of contacting each student.

L. OTHER INFORMATION

• Academic Advising
The College of Science & Engineering requires that students meet with an Academic
Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set
up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the
department chair. Meetings are by appointment only; advisors do not take walk-ins.
Please call or stop by the Advising Center to check availability and schedule an
appointment. The College’s Academic Advising Center is located in Center for
Instruction 350 or can be reached at (361) 825-3928.

GENERAL DISCLAIMER
I reserve the right to modify the information, schedule, assignments, deadlines, and course
policies in this syllabus if and when necessary. I will announce such changes in a timely
manner during regularly scheduled lecture periods.