COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND OCEAN LAW  
CMSS 6370 Doctoral  
Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences  
Fall 2019

A. COURSE INFORMATION
   Course number/section: CMSS 6370.001  
   Class meeting time: Thursday, 4:20 – 6:50pm  
   Class location: Bay Hall 202

B. INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
   Instructor: Dr. Richard McLaughlin  
   Office location: HRI 122E  
   Office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 1:30 – 4:00 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>% of FINAL GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
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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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>International Law of the Sea</td>
<td>Read pp. 1-6; 19-39</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Guest Lecturer</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>International Law of the Sea (cont.) Western Gap</td>
<td>Read pp. 47-56; 68-71</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Taking Issues in Coastal Areas; Exactions; <em>Nollan v. California</em> Coastal Comm.</td>
<td>Read pp. 364-383; 238-244</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Mid-term exam</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</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>9</td>
<td>Beach Access + Video; Implementing the Coastal Zone Management Act</td>
<td>Read pp. 216-238; 249-280</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</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>11</td>
<td>Guest Lecturer</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Fisheries Management (cont.) + Wetland Protection</td>
<td>Read pp. 616-628; Wetlands power point</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Offshore Renewable Energy; Offshore Wind Video. Course Review</td>
<td>Read pp. 490-509</td>
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12/12/19 Final Exam

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)**
  I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. Please consult the Academic 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/](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.