

**Syllabus for PS 3128, Section 1
Politics of the U.S. National Park System
Fall 2017**

Location:

TR 9:30–10:45am, 346 Jessup Hall

Professor: Bryce J. Dietrich

Office: 314 Schaeffer Hall
Email: bryce-dietrich@uiowa.edu
Web Page: <http://www.brycejdietrich.com>
Office Hours: W 1:30–4:30pm, and by appointment

Texts: *Who is Minding the Federal Estate? Political Management of America's Public Lands*, Holly Lippke Fretwell, ISBN 9780739131022

How the Government Got in Your Backyard: Supersedes, Frankenfoods, Lawn Wars and the (Nonpartisan) Truth About Environmental Policies, Jeff Gillman and Eric Heberlig, ISBN 9781604690019

Other Readings: The rest of the readings are online. Those that are not can be found on ICON.

Material to be Covered: This course examines the politics surrounding environmental issues. Specifically, we will focus on the political, economic, and ecological trade-offs between the use and preservation of the environment. This course will draw from a variety of disciplines such as, conservation biology, economics, political science, and public administration. With this in mind, we will put a particular emphasis on the relationship between humans and nature and on the preservation of land, water, and other natural resources in national parks, forests, and other managed lands. We will also discuss specific regulatory regimes like the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and problems such as global warming.

In these debates, values, interests, economics, and science intersect. This will be a consistent theme throughout the course.

Quizzes: There will be one quiz each week that covers the lectures and readings. These are designed to reinforce what we read and talked about in class. You have one week to complete each quiz. Be sure to check ICON regularly.

Breakout!: There will be four in-class assignments. For these assignments, you will be broken into small groups. Most of the time you will be answering a worksheet. Other times you will be asked to respond to current events. Sometimes we will use these days to catch up.

Participation and Short Assignments: Students are expected to participate in class. This means students should have finished all the assigned readings before class and be an active participant in discussion. Additionally, there may be occasional short writing assignments. Each short assignment will be posted one week in advance of the due date. Your final participation grade (including the short assignments) will be worth 10% of your final grade.

Absences: Regular attendance is expected. However, attendance will not be taken. With that said, it is difficult to participate when you are not here, meaning if you consistently miss class, your absences may affect your participation grade.

Midterm Exams: There will be two midterm exams. These will be on **9/14** and **11/9**. Each exam will cover a single unit and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, true/false, and short answer questions.

Final Exam: The date final exam will be on **TBD**. The final exam will be worth 20% of your final grade and will consist of a combination of multiple choice, matching, true/false, and short answer questions. Half of the questions will cover material since the midterm and half of the questions will cover material from the whole course.

Grading:

Final Exam	20%
Midterm Exam #1	20%
Midterm Exam #2	20%
Quizzes	15%
Breakout!	15%
Participation	10%

Scale:

A	93-100%
A-	90-92.99%
B+	87-89.99%
B	83-86.99%
B-	80-82.99%
C+	77-79.99%
C	73-76.99%
C-	70-72.99%
D+	67-69.99%
D	63-66.99%
D-	60-62.99%
F	0-59.99%

Late Work and Make-Up Exams: Late work will not be accepted and no make-up exams will be given. There should be no problems meeting the expectations of the course. All the due dates are given, and I will make sure to give you plenty of notice ahead of time.

Administrative Home: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is the administrative home of this course and governs matters such as the add/drop deadlines, the second-grade-only option, and other related issues. Different colleges may have different policies. Questions

may be addressed to 120 Schaeffer Hall, or see the CLAS Academic Policies Handbook at <http://clas.uiowa.edu/students/handbook>.

Electronic Communication: University policy specifies that students are responsible for all official correspondences sent to their University of Iowa e-mail address (@uiowa.edu). Faculty and students should use this account for correspondences (Operations Manual, III.15.2, k.11).

Accommodations for Disabilities: The University of Iowa is committed to providing an educational experience that is accessible to all students. A student may request academic accommodations for a disability (which include but are not limited to mental health, attention, learning, vision, and physical or health-related conditions). A student seeking academic accommodations should first register with Student Disability Services and then meet with the course instructor privately in the instructor's office to make particular arrangements. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between the student, instructor, and SDS. See <http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/> for information.

Academic Honesty: All CLAS students or students taking classes offered by CLAS have, in essence, agreed to the College's Code of Academic Honesty: "I pledge to do my own academic work and to excel to the best of my abilities, upholding the IOWA Challenge. I promise not to lie about my academic work, to cheat, or to steal the words or ideas of others; nor will I help fellow students to violate the Code of Academic Honesty." Any student committing academic misconduct is reported to the College and placed on disciplinary probation or may be suspended or expelled (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

CLAS Final Examination Policies: The final examination schedule for each class is announced by the Registrar generally by the fifth week of classes. Final exams are offered only during the official final examination period. No exams of any kind are allowed during the last week of classes. All students should plan on being at the UI through the final examination period. Once the Registrar has announced the date, time, and location of each final exam, the complete schedule will be published on the Registrar's web site and will be shared with instructors and students. It is the student's responsibility to know the date, time, and place of a final exam.

Making a Suggestion or a Complaint: Students with a suggestion or complaint should first visit with the instructor (and the course supervisor), and then with the departmental DEO. (**Wenfang Tang, 335-2358**) Complaints must be made within six months of the incident (CLAS Academic Policies Handbook).

Understanding Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment subverts the mission of the University and threatens the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. All members of the UI community have a responsibility to uphold this mission and to contribute to a safe environment that enhances learning. Incidents of sexual harassment should be reported immediately. See the UI Comprehensive Guide on Sexual Harassment for assistance, definitions, and the full University policy.

Reacting Safely to Severe Weather: In severe weather, class members should seek appropriate shelter immediately, leaving the classroom if necessary. The class will continue if possible when the event is over. For more information on Hawk Alert and the siren warning system, visit the Department of Public Safety website.

Calendar The calendar below gives the dates of exams and other important deadlines for the course. Readings should be completed **prior** to the start of class. This calendar is subject to change. Any changes will be announced and posted on Blackboard.

Unit I: Values and Nature

Week 1

Tuesday 22 Aug **Welcome and Introductions**
No Readings

Thursday 24 Aug **Values I: History**
Fretwell, Ch 5

Emma Marris et al. 2011 “The Age of Man is not a Disaster.”
New York Times http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/08/opinion/the-age-of-man-is-not-a-disaster.html?_r=0

Week 2

Tuesday 29 Aug **No Class**
Aldo Leopold, “Thinking Like a Mountain.” <http://www.eco-action.org/dt/thinking.html>
Aldo Leopold, “The Land Ethic.” <http://home.btconnect.com/tipiglen/landethic.html>

Greg Breining. 2012. “Of Wolves and Science,” *National Parks Traveler* <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2012/12/guest-column-wolves-and-science22600>

Thursday 31 Aug **No Class**
Annie Leonard. “The Story of Stuff,” <http://www.storyofstuff.org/movies-all/story-of-stuff/>

Week 3

Tuesday 5 Sep **Sustainability**
Gillman and Heberling, Ch 2
Gillman and Heberling, Ch 6

Thursday 7 Sep **History, Land, and Water in the U.S.**
Fretwell, Ch 1
Gillman and Heberling, Ch 10

Patrick Impero Wilson. 2002. "Native Peoples and the Management of Natural Resources in the Pacific Northwest: A Comparative Assessment." *American Review of Canadian Studies* 3: 397-414.

Raul Grijalva. 2011. "Mining and American Indians Still Don't Mix." *Indian Country Today* <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2011/11/19/mining-and-american-indians-still-dont-mix>

Week 4

Tuesday 12 Sep **Recreation and the Environment**
R. Bruce Hull. 2000. "Moving Beyond the Romantic Biases in Natural Areas Recreation." *Journal of Leisure Research* 32(1): 54-57.

Cassandra Y. Johnson and J.M. Bowker. 1999. "On-Site Wildland Activity Choices Among African Americans and White Americans in the Rural South: Implications for Management." *Journal of Parks and Recreation Administration* 17(1): 21-39.

Allen Best. 2000. "Stop: A National Forest Tries to Rein in Recreation." *High Country News* <http://www.hcn.org/issues/170/5483>

Thursday 14 Sep **Midterm Exam #1**
No Readings

Unit II: Analytical Approaches

Week 5

Tuesday 19 Sep

Conservation Biology

Michael E. Soule. 1985. "What is Conservation Biology?" *BioScience* 35(11): 727-734.

James A. Estes et al. 2011. "Trophic Downgrading of Planet Earth" *Science* 333(6040): 301-306.

Thursday 21 Sep

Ecosystem Management

Gillman and Heberling, Ch 8

Melanie D. G. Kaplan. 2012. "Back to the Land." *National Parks* 86(4): 36-42.

Week 6

Tuesday 26 Sep

Science, Chemicals, and Public Health

Gillman and Heberling, Ch 3

Silent Spring, Ch 5

Paul Tolme. 2013. "Mercury Falling." *National Wildlife* 51(1): 38-43.
<http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2013/Mercury-and-Wildlife.aspx>

Thursday 28 Sep

Breakout!

No Readings

Week 7

Tuesday 2 Oct **Endangered Species, Part I**

Fretwell, Ch 2

Tim Harford. "The Preservation Paradox: Why Conservation Laws Can Kill the Animals They're Supposed to Protect." *Slate* http://www.slate.com/articles/arts/the_undercover_economist/2006/08/the_preservation_paradox.html

Isabelle Groc. "Should Conservationists Allow Some Species to Die Out?" *Discover* <http://discovermagazine.com/2011/mar/10-should-allow-some-species-die-out>

Thursday 5 Oct **Endangered Species, Part II**

TBD

Week 8

Tuesday 10 Oct **Economics and Energy**

Gillman and Heberling, Ch 5

David Owen. 2004. "Green Manhattan." *The New Yorker* <http://www.davidowen.net/files/green-manhattan.pdf>

Geoffery Carr. 2012. "Sunny Uplands: Alternative Energy Will No Longer be Alternative." *The Economist* <http://www.economist.com/news/21566414-alternative-energy-will-no-longer-be-alternative-sunny-upland>

Robert J. Samuelson. 2010. "High-Speed Pork: Why Fast Trains Are a Waste of Money." *Newsweek* <http://www.newsweek.com/why-high-speed-trains-dont-make-sense-74107>

Thursday 12 Oct **Public Opinion and Institutions**

Gillman and Heberling, Introduction

Gillman and Heberling, Ch 1

Ryan Lenz and Evelyn Schlatter. 2011. "Western Patriots' Clash with Feds on Land-Use Issues." *Southern Poverty Law Center* <http://www.splcenter.org/get-informed/intelligence-report/browse-all-issues/2011/summer/western-patriots-clash-with-feds-on-land-use-issues>

Patrick Impero Wilson. 2006. "Forward to the Past: Wolves in the Northern Rockies and the Future of ESA Politics." *Society and Natural Resources* 19: 863-870.

Week 9

Tuesday 17 Oct **The Politics of Clean Air and Water**
Gillman and Heberling, Ch 4

Joel Schwartz. 2008. "Cleaning the Air." *PERC* <http://perc.org/articles/clearing-air-0>

Scott Kirkwood. 2011. "Breathe It In." *National Parks* 85(3): 10-11. <http://www.npca.org/news/magazine/all-issues/2011/summer/breathe-it-in.html>

Thursday 19 Oct **Breakout!**
No Readings

Week 10

Tuesday 24 Oct **Public Administration**

Fretwell, Ch 6

Joseph L. Sax. 1993. "Nature and Habitat Conservation and Protection in the United States." *Ecology Law Quarterly* 20: 47-56.

Patrick C. Jobes. 1991. "The Greater Yellowstone Social System." *Conservation Biology* 5(3): 387-394.

Chris Edwards and Randal O'Toole. 2012. "Reforming Federal Land Management." *CATO* <http://www.downsizinggovernment.org/interior/reforming-federal-land-management>

Thursday 26 Oct **Hunting and the States**

Martin Nie. 2004. "State Wildlife Policy and Management: The Scope and Bias of Political Conflict." *Public Administration Review* 64(2): 206-218.

Doug Stewart. 2002. "A Law That Keeps on Giving." *National Wildlife* <http://www.nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2012/Pittman-Robertson-Act.aspx>

Reed Watson. 2010. "A Tale of Two Ranches." *PERC* <http://perc.org/articles/tale-two-ranches>

Bobby Magill. 2011. "Colorado Shuffles Parks, Wildlife Departments." *NewWest* http://newwest.net/topic/article/colorado_leading_western_states_in_shuffling_parks_wildlife_departments/C37/L37/

Week 11

Tuesday 31 Oct **Environmental Protection Act, Part I**
Fretwell, Ch 3

Thursday 2 Nov **Environmental Protection Act, Part II**
Iowa Readings, TBD

Week 12

Tuesday 7 Nov **Midterm Review**
No Readings

Thursday 9 Nov **Midterm Exam #2**
No Readings

Unit III: Protected Areas

Week 13

Tuesday 14 Nov **National Forests**
John J. Berger, Ch 6
John J. Berger, Ch 8
John J. Berger, Ch 10

Thursday 16 Nov **National Parks**
Edward Abbey, Ch 6

Allan K. Fitzsimmons. 1976. "National Parks: The Dilemma of Development." *Science* 191(4426): 440-444.

Larry M. Dilsaver and William Wyckoff. 1999. "Agency Culture, Cumulative Causation and Development in Glacier National Park, Montana." *Journal of Historical Geography* 25(1): 75-92.

Scott Kirkwood. 2011. "On the Right Path." *National Parks* 85(4): 18. <http://www.npca.org/news/magazine/all-issues/2011/fall/on-the-right-path.html>

Daniel Botkin. 2012. "Science, Open Space, and the Future of Our National Parks." *National Parks Traveler* <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2012/11/guest-column-science-open-space-and-future-our-national-parks10869>

Week 14

Tuesday 21 Nov **Fall Break**
No Readings

Thursday 23 Nov **Fall Break**
No Readings

Week 15

Tuesday 28 Nov **Bureau of Land Management and National Wildlife Refuges**
Paul F. Starrs, Ch 4

Jennifer Weeks. 2009. "From Birds to Bombs." *Defenders Magazine*

George Wuerthner. 2010. "Welfare Ranchers, Wolves, and the Externalization of Costs." *NewWest* http://newwest.net/topic/article/welfare_ranchers_wolves_and_the_externalization_of_costs/C564/L564/

Heidi Ridgley. 2012. "Living with Wildlife." *Defenders Magazine* <https://www.defenders.org/magazine/winter-2012/living-wildlife>

Thursday 30 Nov **Breakout!**
No Readings

Unit IV: The Commons

Week 16

Tuesday 5 Dec **Global Warming**
Gillman and Heberling, Ch 11
Robbins, Hintz and Moore, Ch 9

Thursday 7 Dec **Water**
National Research Council. "Executive Summary." http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=9994&page=1

Larry J. Schweiger. 2012. "We Must Care for the Oceans." *National Wildlife* 50(3): 6. <http://blog.nwf.org/2012/02/we-must-care-for-the-oceans/>

Week 17

Tuesday 12 Dec **Final Exam (TBD)**
No Readings

Friday 14 Dec **Final Exam (TBD)**
No Readings