



**Course Title: Environmental Regulation Enforcement**  
**Course #: ENV 485-1**

**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Semester: Spring 2022**  
**Cap: 10**

**Faculty:** Abhishek RoyChowdhury, Ph.D.

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**Office:** Tech 301

**Office Phone:** 505-387-7434

**Office Hours:** M & W 11am – 12:30pm (or by appointment)

**Preferred Communication:** Email

**Modality** (face-to-face, hybrid, or online): Face-to-face

**Class Location:** Tech 301

**Class Meeting Times:** Wednesday 1 pm – 4 pm; Additionally, special classes will be assigned for extra class hours.

**Required Materials:**

**Textbooks:** Enforcement at the EPA: High Stakes and Hard Choices; Joel A. Mintz (2012) (Suggested)  
Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed; Jared Diamond (Suggested)

**Reading Materials:** Will be provided by the instructor

**Lab Fee (if applicable):** None

**Mission Statement**

Navajo Technical University's mission is to provide University readiness programs, certificates, associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees. Students, faculty, and staff will provide value to the Diné community through research, community engagement, service learning, and activities designed to foster cultural and environmental preservation and sustainable economic development. The University is committed to a high quality, student-oriented, hands-on-learning environment based on the Diné cultural principles: *Nitsáhákees, Nahátá, Íina, Siihasin.*

**Course Description**

This course covers the major environmental laws as they pertain to wildlife, natural resources, pollution, and environmental regulation and enforcement in the United States. The federal agencies responsible for regulation enforcement to protect these natural resources are covered including their respective responsibilities. Students will gain knowledge on how regulations are developed, amended, and enforced in the United States. Major laws covered include the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and environmental laws of the Navajo Nation.

Course Outcomes	Course Measurements
At the end of the course, students will be able to:	Complete reading assignments, writing assignments, presentation, and in class exams.
1. In depth knowledge of the US environmental laws and their enforcement	
2. In depth knowledge of the Navajo Nation environmental laws and their enforcement	
3. Environmental Management Strategies and the reporting patterns	
4. Relate environmental regulation enforcement activities with case studies	
5. Professionally present their work	

### Course Activities

Week	Date	Chapters	Assignments
1		Introduction; Syllabus discussion; An Inconvenient Truth	Assignment# 1
		<b>Last day to add/drop</b>	
2		Environmental Compliance and Management Perspectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evolution of US environmental laws</li> <li>• National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)</li> <li>• Applicability and interrelationship of environmental requirements</li> <li>• Enforcement principles and current trends</li> </ul>	Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 2
3		Water Quality Regulations and Permits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting</li> <li>• Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)</li> <li>• Safe Drinking Water Act</li> <li>• Stormwater Discharge Permitting</li> <li>• Stormwater Pollution Prevention (SWPP) Plans</li> <li>• Spill Prevention Controls and Countermeasures (SPCC) Requirements and Plans</li> </ul>	Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 3

4		<p>Air Quality Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Emissions Permitting/Clean Air Act Compliance</li> <li>• National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)</li> <li>• State Implementation Plan (SIP)</li> <li>• Case study</li> </ul>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 4</p>
5		<p>Natural and Cultural Resource Protection Laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetlands and Endangered Species Regulations</li> <li>• NHPA Section 106 requirements</li> <li>• Effects on site development and proposed projects</li> <li>• Public and private sector impacts</li> <li>• Case study</li> </ul>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 5</p>
		<b>Graduation Petition is due</b>	
6		<p>Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSMRE Laws, Regulations, and Guidance</li> <li>• Case study</li> </ul>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 6</p>
7		<p>Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)</p>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 7</p>
8		<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>Midterm</b>
		<b>Midterm grades are due</b>	
9		<p>Hazardous and Solid Wastes Solid waste management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous waste accumulation, transportation, treatment, and disposal</li> <li>• Used oil management</li> <li>• Universal hazardous wastes</li> </ul>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 8</p>
10		Spring Break	
11		<p>Hazardous Materials Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chemical Classes and Characteristics</li> <li>• Container and facility design</li> </ul>	<p>Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 9</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storage requirements (EPA, OSHA, NFPA, Industry Codes)</li> </ul>	
		<b>Last day to withdraw with a "W"</b>	
12		Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Release reporting</li> <li>Site identification, characterization, and corrective action</li> <li>Property transfer and the All Appropriate Inquiry Standard</li> </ul>	Read: Provided reading materials. Assignment# 10
13		Environmental laws of the Navajo Nation: Case Studies	Extra Credit Assignment
14		Environmental Management Strategies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pollution prevention assessments and strategies</li> <li>Environmental Management Systems / ISO 14000</li> <li>Voluntary environmental reporting systems</li> <li>Internal compliance auditing</li> </ul>	No Assignment
15		Course Review. Preparation for final exam	
16		No Class	
17		Final Exam	<b>Finals</b>
		<b>Grades are due to the Registrar</b>	
		<b>Graduation</b>	

### Grading Plan

Assignments	30%
Midterm	25%
Final Exam	30%
Class Participation	15%

A = 100 - 90%
B = 89 - 80%
C = 79 - 70%
D = 69 - 60%
F < 60%

### Grading Policy

Each student must do his or her own homework and case studies. Discussion among students on homework and cases is encouraged for clarification of assignments, technical details of using software, and

structuring major steps of solutions - especially on the course's Web site. Students must do their own work on the homework and exam. Cheating and Plagiarism are strictly forbidden. Cheating includes but is not limited to: plagiarism, submission of work that is not the student's own, submission or use of falsified data, unauthorized access to exam or assignment, use of unauthorized material during an exam, supplying or communicating unauthorized information for an assignment or exam.

### **Participation**

Students are expected to attend and participate in all class activities- as listed above, as it is **15% of the grade**. Points will be given to students who actively participate in class activities.

Cell phone and headphone use

Please turn cell phones off or place them on silence or vibrate mode **before** coming to class. Also, answer cell phones **outside of class** (not in the classroom). Exercising cell phone use courtesy is appreciated by both the instructor and classmates. Headphones are to be removed before coming to class.

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to regularly attend all classes for which they are registered. A percentage of the student's grade will be based on class attendance and participation. Absence from class, regardless of the reason, does not relieve the student of his/her responsibility to complete all course work by the required deadlines. Furthermore, it is the student's responsibility to obtain notes, handouts, and any other information covered when absent from class and to arrange to make up any in-class assignments or tests if permitted by the instructor. Incomplete or missing assignments will necessarily affect the student's grades. Instructors will report excessive and/or unexplained absences to the Counseling Department for investigation and potential intervention. **Instructors may drop students from the class after three (3) absences unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor to make up work and the instructor deems any excuse acceptable.**

### **Study Time Outside of Class for Face-to-Face Courses**

**For every credit hour spent in a class, a student is expected to spend two hours (2) outside of class studying the course materials.**

### **Study Time for Hybrid or Blended Courses**

**For a hybrid or blended course of one (1) credit hour, a student is expected to spend three (3) hours per week studying the course materials.**

### **Study Time for Online Courses**

**For an online course of one (1) credit hour, a student is expected to spend four hours (4) per week studying the course materials.**

### **Academic Integrity**

Integrity (honesty) is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. Students who engage in academic dishonesty diminish their education and bring discredit to the University community. Avoid situations likely to compromise academic integrity such as: cheating, facilitating academic dishonesty, and plagiarism; modifying academic work to obtain additional credit in the same class unless approved in advance by the instructor, failure to observe rules of academic integrity established by the instructor. **The use of another person's ideas or work claimed as your own without acknowledging the original source is known as plagiarism and is prohibited.**

**Diné Philosophy of Education**

The Diné Philosophy of Education (DPE) is incorporated into every class for students to become aware of and to understand the significance of the four Diné philosophical elements, including its affiliation with the four directions, four sacred mountains, the four set of thought processes and so forth: Nitsáhákees, Nahát'á, Íina and Siih Hasin which are essential and relevant to self-identity, respect and wisdom to achieve career goals successfully.

**Students with Disabilities**

The Navajo Technical University and the Environmental Science and Natural Resources program are committed to serving all enrolled students in a non-discriminatory and accommodating manner. Any student who feels he/she may need an accommodation based on the impact of disability or needs special accommodations should inform NTU in accordance with the procedures of the subsection entitled “Students with Disabilities” under Section 7: Student Support Programs, NTU Student Handbook.

**Final Exam Date: May 11, 2022**