

# WSI 230 - WATER POLICY & SUSTAINABILITY

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## Course Description

This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of the fundamental principles of water law and policy and human relationships, use, threats, and conflicts over water and aquatic resources. The course emphasizes a new integrative approach to water issues based on the nexus of the water commons to health, food, quality of life, energy, climate change, ecosystem, and economy. Group 2 course.

## Credit Hours

3

## Contact Hours

3

## Lecture Hours

3

## Required Prerequisites

ENG 111 and MTH 100 or higher, both may be taken concurrently

## Recommended Prerequisites or Skills

## Competencies

PLS 101, WSI 105

## General Education Outcomes supported by this course

Communications - Direct, Critical Thinking - Direct

## Other college designations supported by this course

Degree Req:Cultural Persp/Div, Infused: Writing Intensive

## Course Learning Outcomes

### Knowledge:

- Summarize the history of human civilization relating to water.
- Use legal research tools for water law and policy.
- Describe court decisions and federal, state, and international laws related to use and protection of water.
- Explain the new framework for water as a commons and public trust.
- Explain the nature and extent of rights of the private use of water.

### Application:

- Describe the effects of competing natural and human uses of water; such as agriculture, energy, and drinking water on the hydrologic cycle.
- Describe rulings or policy responses to water disputes based on their research.
- Apply water and public trust law principles to historical applications.
- Apply water and public trust principles to 21st Century scenarios.

### Integration:

- Synthesize research to form positions on water law and policy.
- Present a water problem, applicable principles and a recommended solution/s in a report and presentation to an audience.

### Human Dimension:

- Describe the relationship between individuals, their community, states, and countries, over the use water.
- Describe the holistic or integrative relationship between water, food, energy, climate change, and human and natural adaptation and resilience.

### Caring - Civic Learning:

- Explain their personal responsibility for stewardship of water.
- Respect the intrinsic value of water relating to the diversity of the needs of other people and cultures.
- Describe the relationship of water resources to international security.

### Learning How to Learn:

- Utilize research skills to find information on law and policy disputes, problems, threats, and solutions.
- Evaluate policy disputes to identify problems and find solutions.
- Utilize writing skills to take a position on a public policy problem.
- Utilize communication, speaking, and media skills to solve public policy problems.
- Develop a water law and sustainability resource notebook.