

Ozarks Technical Community College

Course Syllabus

COURSE INFORMATION

Semester: Spring 2015

Course Title/Number: ENVR LAW & REGS PLS-255

Credit Hours: [3] **Lecture:** [3] **Lab:** [0]

Class time and location: 5pm to 8(+) pm (Pressed schedule due to Holidays), Waynesville, Missouri

Course begins: 01/12/2015

Course ends: 03/02/2015

Instructor: John A Carey III

Office: Waynesville, MO

Phone: 573-596-0674

Email: Careyj@otc.edu

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Response Time

Instructors are expected to respond to student communications within 24 hours except on weekends, holidays, and during official college closures. For messages sent from students on weekends/holidays/college closures, the instructor is expected to respond on the following business day. **Important:** Upon entering this online course, you have acknowledged OTC online course requirements. Because your success in any OTC online course depends upon your compliance with these requirements, you are encouraged to review the document again and to ask any questions you may have about those requirements before proceeding in your online course.

Prerequisites None

Textbook (Required)

Practical Environmental Law, Second Edition (Aspen College), by Laurel A. Vietzen, Edition: 2nd

Required Materials

Textbook, Notebook, & Computer Access

Computer Requirements

Students must have access to a computer that meets OTC [Computer Requirements for Online Courses](#). If you have any questions about these computer requirements, please email helpdesk@otc.edu. If you have difficulty using Blackboard, please contact [OTC Online](#) at online@otc.edu.

[Google Chrome](#), [Mozilla Firefox](#) and [Safari](#) web browsers are recommended for use with Blackboard. Make sure you are using the most recent version of any browser. **Internet Explorer** is not compatible with Blackboard and is not recommended.

Course Rationale

This course provides an introduction to federal environmental law, regulation, and policy in the United States. The course emphasizes the issues relating to the impact of environmental laws on society.

Description

This course provides an introduction to hazardous waste regulations, solid waste management programs, the Clean Air Act, OSHA regulations, the Clean Water Act, environmental audits, remediation technology and issues relating to the impact of environmental laws on society.

Course Objectives

Comprehend the basic system of environmental law, regulation and issues relating to the impact of environmental laws on society.

Grading Scale

This course follows the OTC grading guidelines:

- A = 90 to 100% = 331 to 370 points
- B = 80 to 89% = 295 to 330 points
- C = 70 to 79% = 259 to 294 points
- D = 60 to 69% = 220 to 258 points
- F = 0 to 59% = 0 to 219 points

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Grading

Assignments in this course are divided into general categories, which carry the following points in your final grade calculations:

ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
Midterm	100
3 Environmental Article Posts/Discussion	30
Group Presentation	100
Final Exam	100
Assigned Homework Posts	40
Total	370

Attending Class

Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are enrolled. Students should be present for all classes, if absence is unavoidable; the student is responsible for obtaining class notes and assignments from other students in the class.

Accepting Late Work

A penalty deduction may be given for late work received within one week of the original due date. A zero may be given for all other late work.

Group Presentation

You will be manually enrolled into a Group. As a group you will collectively find an environmental court case. You will conduct research on that case and present your case to the class in the provided PPT presentation format (PowerPoint NMT 30 to 40 slides based on group assignment).

Article Post

Using the internet, conduct research on an environmental legal issue and post your findings in the provided format.

Response Post

Respond to 2 Posted Articles (Discussion) by making a short comment (NMT 1 paragraph).

Course Schedule

Week 1--12 Jan 2015, Time 5pm to -9:30pm (+1.5hrs Make-up MLK)

- Ch. 1. Introduction to the Study of Law
- Ch. 2. Administrative Agencies in Environmental Law
- Ch. 3. The Courts in Environmental Law
- Ch. 4. The Constitution and the Executive in Environmental Law

Ch. 7. National Environmental Policy Act

Homework 1 post due by Thursday 15 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (10 points)

Article 1 Post (Discussion) due by Friday 16 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Respond to 2 Articles (Discussion) due by Sunday 18 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Work on Draft (group presentation in group folder)

Week 2--No Class-- 19 Jan 2015 - MLK Holiday

Article 2 Post (Discussion) due by Thursday 22 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Respond to 2 Articles (Discussion) due by Sunday 25 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Week 3--26 Jan 2015, Time 5pm 50 9:30pm (+1.5hrs Makeup MLK)

Ch. 5. Protection of the Environment at the Local and International Levels

Ch. 6. Due Diligence in Transactional Law

Ch. 9. Water

Homework 2 post due by Thursday 29 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (10 points)

Article 3 Post (Discussion) due by Friday 30 Jan 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Respond to 2 Articles (Discussion) due by Sunday 1 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Work on Draft (group presentation in group folder)

Week 4--2 Feb 2015, Class 5pm to 8pm (Midterm)

Ch. 8. The Air We Breathe & P2

Article 4 Post (Discussion) due by Thursday 5 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Respond to 2 Articles (Discussion) due by Sunday 8 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Week 5(+1.5hrs)--9 Feb 2015 Time 5pm to 9:30pm (1.5hrs Makeup, Holiday Day)

Ch. 10. CERCLA, SARA, EPCRA, and TSCA

Ch. 12. FIFRA

Homework 3 post due by Thursday 12 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (10 points)

Article 4 Post (Discussion) due by Friday 13 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Respond to 2 Articles (Discussion) due by Sunday 15 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT (5 points)

Week 6--No Class--6 Feb 2015 Holiday Day

Work on group presentation (Post group's final draft PPT presentation into group folder. Due by Sunday 22 Feb 2015, 11:59 p.m. CT)

Week 7--23 Feb 2015 Times 5pm to 9:30pm (1.5hrs Makeup Holiday Day)

Ch. 11. Solid Waste, Hazardous Waste (RCRA) & OSHA

Ch. 12. Wild Things, Wild Places: ESA, Federal Land,

Ch. 13 Mining

Group Presentations

Week 8--2 Mar 2015 Class 5pm to 8pm (Final Exam)

College Policies and Procedures

Email Communication

Because of privacy regulations, College faculty and staff can communicate with students only through OTC email. Therefore, you must use your OTC email account in this course. Check your OTC email account at least three times per week for important messages. (Some online instructors may use Blackboard's messaging system. Check with the instructor for the requirements.)

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity represents one of the most essential elements of the teaching and learning process. All OTC students are expected to fulfill their academic obligations through honest and independent effort. By submitting coursework to your instructor as an OTC student, you pledge that the work is truly your own.

Violations of academic integrity -- which include, but are not limited to: cheating, collusion, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct -- damage your personal character and thwart your instructors' ability to promote your learning. As an OTC student, you are responsible for knowing and following the College's policies and procedures regarding academic integrity. These guidelines and more information related to academic integrity are available in the [Student Handbook](#) and in [College Policy 5.15](#). The College recognizes that academic integrity is complex and can be confusing. Therefore, you are obligated to review these information sources carefully and to seek needed clarification from your instructor concerning questions of collaborative work, citation of sources, or other issues related to academic integrity.

Proctoring Requirement

In an effort to protect the academic integrity of OTC online programs, every online course includes a required proctored assessment (exam, speech, presentation, etc.). Any student who does not participate in the proctored assessment will receive a failing course grade (regardless of the earned grade listed in the gradebook).

Students who live within 30 or fewer miles from an OTC campus are expected to complete their proctored assessment(s) at that location or via [ProctorU online services](#). Students who live more than 30 miles from an OTC facility, may take the proctored assessment(s) at a pre-approved off-campus location*, or via ProctorU online services**.

*All off-campus facilities must be in accordance with the OTC proctoring specifications and must be pre-approved by the course instructor for appropriateness. Examples of off-campus facilities include professional librarians at a public library, high school administrators, testing control or unit education officers at U.S. military bases, or U.S. embassy officials. Examples of unacceptable proctors are relatives, clergy and employers.

**ProctorU services may be used by any online student at their own expense. MTH and COM 105 students may not use ProctorU for their proctored assessments.

OTC [Proctoring Requirements](#) webpage provides detailed information concerning non-OTC proctoring locations, allowable proctors, and other relevant testing information.

Standards of Online Student Conduct

Appropriate academic conduct includes doing assigned work, meeting deadlines, participating in online discussions, and completing all the required elements of the course. It also means following these basic rules of netiquette (manners when communicating digitally):

- Using proper capitalization, spelling, and grammar.
- Signing your name to all email messages and discussion postings.
- Providing descriptive but concise subject lines.

Appropriate academic conduct means maintaining a safe learning environment based on mutual respect and civility. All participants in OTC online courses are expected to behave professionally by adhering to these standards of conduct in the online environment:

- Never transmit or promote content known to be illegal.
- Respect other people's privacy as well as your own.
- Forgive other people's mistakes.
- Never use harassing, threatening, embarrassing, or otherwise abusive language or actions.

Online communication that fails to meet these standards of conduct may be sufficient cause for immediate dismissal from the course. For example, repeated misconduct may result in being blocked from online discussions, receiving a grade penalty, or being dismissed from the course. Such misconduct in the online environment may also be reported to the College Director of OTC Online and the Dean of Student Development, for appropriate action in accordance with the [Student Handbook](#). If a student feels anything in the online course is inappropriate or uncomfortable, first contact your instructor for assistance. See Grievance Procedures for more information.

Copyright Notice

The materials found in this online course are strictly for the use of students enrolled in this course and for purposes associated with this course. They may not be retained or further disseminated. OTC students, faculty, and staff are expected to comply fully with institutional copyright policy as well as all other copyright laws. More information is available in [College Policy 2.51](#).

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Any student should notify the instructor immediately if special assistance or devices are needed to accommodate a disability. The College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and makes every effort to ensure disabled persons admitted to the College as students or employed by the College are afforded all the rights and privileges provided to them by state and federal law. To request academic accommodations for a disability, contact the [Disability Support Services](#) at 417-447-8189 or disabilityservices@otc.edu. Students are required to provide documentation of disability to Disability Support Services prior to receiving accommodations.

Dropping the Class

You are responsible for understanding OTC procedures for dropping a class. If you stop participating in this class but do not follow proper procedures for dropping the class, you will receive a failing grade. To drop a class, you must complete the necessary form in Student Services or via the AccessOTC tab in MyOTC. Failure to withdraw properly from classes has a detrimental effect on your grade point average

and your future educational goals. The date for the last day to withdraw from a course is listed in the current [Academic Calendar](#).

Administrative Withdrawal from an Online Course

It is the policy of the College that a student will be administratively withdrawn from a course due to lack of attendance in seated classes or nonparticipation in online classes. ([Policy 5.36](#))

An instructor will administratively withdraw a student from class if that student does not meet the following criteria in an online course:

- Does not [attend](#) the course for 14 consecutive days without contacting the instructor in a 16-week course, seven consecutive days in an 8-week course, etc.
 - Federal regulations require a slight change in our definition of attendance in an online course. Students must have logged in and participated in an academically related activity to be counted as attended. Thereby, just “clicking in” does not constitute attendance. Academically related activities may include discussions, quizzes, assignments, etc.

Students should be aware that administrative withdrawal for lack of attendance or nonparticipation may reduce the amount of financial aid they receive, delay their graduation or necessitate repayment of aid already received and does not relieve their obligation to pay all tuition and fees due to the College.

Grievance Procedures

Students should bring any concerns directly to the instructor’s attention. Always give the instructor an opportunity to help before taking any other action. If, for any reason, the issue cannot be resolved after discussing the matter with the instructor, contact Vanessa Germeroth, Director of Online Student Affairs at germerov@otc.edu 417-447-8200, or either of the following individuals (in the order listed) to receive assistance in getting the situation resolved:

- Department Chair, [name], [email address]
- Dean, [name], [email address]

If a complaint cannot be readily resolved through normal channels, students may bring the complaint to the Dean of Students located in the Information Commons building, Room 219-G2, (417) 447-6966. If the Dean of Students cannot satisfactorily resolve the complaint, students may request the matter be referred to the College Student Grievance Committee ([Policy 4.01](#)). The chairperson will convene the committee, the committee will hear the complaint, then deliver a recommendation for resolution by the College Chancellor. The decision of the College Chancellor is final.

Nondiscrimination Statement

Ozarks Technical Community College prohibits discrimination and harassment and provides equal opportunities in its admissions, educational programs, activities, and employment regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran status, disabilities that include HIV and AIDS, and medical conditions. Bona fide occupational qualifications will be allowed in those instances where age, gender, or physical requirements apply to the appropriate and efficient administration of the position.