Instructor: Mr. Bill Oates  
Office:  
Email: boates@tfs.tamu.edu  
Telephone: 936-615-0764 (cell)

Class Time/Place: Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.; Room 221, Forestry Building

Office Hours: TBD

After Hours: TBD - I will be available by cell phone, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, seven days a week.


Course Prerequisites:  
None required, but students should take all Forestry 100- and 200-level courses prior to enrolling in this course. This will insure the student has a comprehensive background in Forestry and derive maximum benefit from this course.

Student Learning:  
This course will provide the student an understanding and appreciation of the history of Forestry and the environmental movement in Texas and the United States. Instructor will focus on policy as a process of evolving compromises and the real-world impact of applied regulations and laws. Policy development will be defined as a series of negotiated settlements, developed in institutional and public arenas.
Course Outline, Reading Assignments, & Guest Lecturers:

1) Natural Resource Policy course generally divided across three eras:

   a. Disposition
      i. Overview

   b. Reservation
      i. Attitudes Toward Exploitation of Resources; Land Classification Assessments
      ii. Early Environmental Movements – Arbor Day (1872), American Forestry Association (1875), Sierra Club (1892), Forestry Education, Gifford Pinchot, Bernhard Fernow, John Muir, etc.
      iii. Conservationists versus Preservationists, Hetch-Hetchy, Public Land Commission (1879), Law Enforcement, etc.
      iv. Federal Forestry (1876), Department of Agriculture, Influence of German Forestry, Economic Realities, American Forestry Philosophies, Forest Reserve Act (1891), etc.
      v. Organic Act (1897), Department of Interior, Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Philosophies, Lacey Act (1900), Antiquities Act (1906), etc.

   c. Management
      i. Roosevelt and Pinchot, Transfer Act (1905), Agricultural Appropriations Acts, Birth of American Forestry, Appropriations Acts (1906, 1907), etc.
      iii. Private Lands, Federal Interest in Private Forestry, Clark-McNary Act (1924), Knutson-Vandenburg Act (1930), Recreation on Public Lands, Wilderness Movements
      iv. Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, Acquisition of the Texas National Forests (1933), Industrial Forestry in the South, Pittman-Robertson Act (1937)
      v. Federal Support for State Forestry, More Recreation, Creation of the BLM (1946), Soil Bank (1956)
2) Reading Assignments:

   b. “Texas National Forest Study” (1954)*
   c. “A Forest Policy for Texas” (1914)*
   d. “SGSF Forest Certification Programs” (2021)*
   e. Other publications as necessary

(*Provided by the instructor)

3) Guest Presenters:

   a. Suzanne Walker (Consultant) – ESA and Private Landowners
   b. Shane Harrington (TFS) – Clean Water Act (CWA)
   c. Frank Shockley (Retired Forester) – Ethics in Forestry
   d. Ben Bartlett (TFS) – Carbon in Forestry
   e. Donna Work (TFS) – Endangered Species Act (ESA)
   f. Rob Potts (USFS) – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
   g. Rob Hughes (TFA) – Texas Forest and Natural Resource Policy

**Course Testing and Projects:**

1) Three exams
2) Up to six quizzes on guest lecturer material.
3) One paper on the Disposition of Texas National Forests.
4) Each exam worth 25% of final grade.
5) Paper worth 25% of final grade.
6) Each quiz worth up to four extra points.

**Dates to Remember**:

1) Exam 1 – September 23
2) Exam 2 – November 2
3) Exam 3 – Date TBD
4) Quizzes – Covering guest lecturer presentations material.
5) Semester paper due by 1700 hours on November 9.

(** - Dates subject to change)
**Attendance Policy:**

If you are unable to attend class, you are responsible for the information that was covered by contacting me or obtaining the material you missed from a classmate. If you know that you are going to miss a class, you are required to let me know in advance by phone or email. If you miss a quiz or exam without an excused absence, you will receive a zero for that activity.

Tardiness is not acceptable. I may or may not allow you to take an in-class quiz if you arrive after it has already been handed out. If you fail to provide a reasonable excuse for your tardiness, I retain the right to assign a zero for that class assignment.

Three unexcused absences will result in a one letter reduction in your final grade; each subsequent unexcused absence will reduce your final grade by one letter.

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all University faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways, including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by University policy on penalties on cheating and plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are: (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work, when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been
purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet or other source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving due credit. Please consult the University web site for more information on this subject.

**Withheld Grades Policy:**

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record, and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of “WH” will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work due to unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive the “WH”, or the grade automatically becomes an “F”. Should students register for the same course in future terms, the “WH” will automatically become an “F” and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing grade point average.

**Responsible Use of Technology:**

It is expected all students will only use cell phones, PDA’s, tablets, computers, MP3 players, and other similar technology when appropriate in class. Answering a cell phone, texting, listening to music, or using another electronic device for matters unrelated to the course may be grounds for dismissal from class and other penalties. Use of any electronic devices during major exams and quizzes is not allowed and will result in dismissal from class.

**Acceptable Student Behavior:**

Classroom behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or ability of other students to learn from the presented material (see the Student Conduct Code, Policy D-34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students disrupting the learning environment may be asked to leave class and may be subject to judicial, academic, or other penalties. The prohibition applies to all instructional forums; including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion
groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate in the classroom. Students who do not regularly attend class or perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This provides students with recommendations for resources or other assistance to insure a successful academic experience.

**Students with Disabilities:**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats, and/or auxiliary aids; as early as possible in the semester, students with disabilities must contact:

Office of Disability Services (ODS)
Human Services Building
Room 325
468-3004/468-1004 (TDD)

Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)