

Fall 2018

## EVSC 335 - Environmental Law

Michael Bonchonsky

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## **EVSC 335 Environmental Law: *Fall 2018 Course Syllabus***

**NJIT Academic Integrity Code:** All Students should be aware that the Department of Chemistry & Environmental Science (CES) takes the University Code on Academic Integrity at NJIT very seriously and enforces it strictly. This means that there must not be any forms of plagiarism, i.e., copying of homework, class projects, or lab assignments, or any form of cheating in quizzes and exams. Under the University Code on Academic Integrity, students are obligated to report any such activities to the Instructor.

### **COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course-Section and Instructor:** EVSC 335-001 Michael P. Bonchonsky

**Course Description:** This course covers the major features, fundamentals and principles of modern environmental law and is offered from the perspective of a practicing environmental scientist and engineer. The historical development and roots of environmental law are analyzed and described. Topics include for example the major features of the Clean Water Act and related programs for protecting the water environment. These major provisions include for example, the Watershed management program, the dredge and fill provisions, the national pollution discharge elimination system permit program, etc. In a similar manner each of the major environmental laws will be reviewed and synthesized (see syllabus topics below) in the context of their historical development and current implementation.

**Number of Credits:** 3 cr

**Prerequisites:** None

**Office Hours for All Chemistry & Environmental Science Instructors:** See Moodle [Fall 2018 Office Hours and Emails](#)

**Required Textbook:**

Required Text: in bookstore...Environmental Law Handbook ISBN 978-1-59888-667-2, December 2013, author: Christopher L. Bell, et. al.

<b>Title</b>	Environmental Law Handbook
<b>Author</b>	Chirtopher L. Bell
<b>Edition</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> edition, 2016 (maroon colored cover)
<b>Publisher</b>	Bernan Press
<b>ISBN #</b>	ISBN 978-1-59888-667-2

**University-wide Withdrawal Date:** The last day to withdraw with a **W** is Monday, November 12, 2018. It will be strictly enforced.

**Learning Outcomes:**

General Environmental law: Compare statutory law with common law; describe the development and roots of environmental law

Clean Water Act: Compare modern provisions and objectives (CWA) with historic goals for clean water, Understand major provisions (CWA); Relate current water conditions to modern regulatory requirements; Design a water discharge permit; Compare ambient and effluent limits; Apply watershed management approaches to the control of water pollution

Clean Air Act: Describe major provisions and show evolution of regulatory controls; Apply CAA to modern issues: global climate change, acid rain, identify major provisions (CAA); Predict trends in ambient levels of each criteria pollutant; Understand the role of secondary pollutant controls in human society

Safe Drinking Water Act: Analyze health implications of and basis for the regulation of major parameters controlled; Identify changes in potable water treatment resulting from regulatory provisions; Know the technical system of selecting (by regulatory agency) parameters for control; Compare the roles of the levels of government involved in drinking water controls

Hazardous Waste regulation, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and CERCLA Superfund program: Apply the legal definition of hazardous waste and hazardous materials, and compare; Apply the major provisions to an industrial manufacturing facility; Describe the required major features of remediation of a historically contaminated industrial site.

**POLICIES**

All CES students must familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, all official university-wide student policies. CES takes these policies very seriously and enforces them strictly.

**Grading Policy:** The final grade in this course will be determined as follows:

Essay	20 %
Quizzes	20
Midterm Exam	25
Final Exam	25
Participation	10

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The final grade of this course will be determined as below:

Final Grade	Overall Academic Performance (100%)
A	Above 90
B+	85-89
B	80-84
C+	75-79
C	70-74
D	60-69
F	Below 60

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance at classes will be recorded and is **mandatory**. Each class is a learning experience that cannot be replicated through simply “getting the notes.”

**Homework Policy:** Homework is an expectation of the course. The homework assignments set by the instructor will be used in class discussions, participation in which is used in the determination of the final letter grade as described above.

**Exams:** There will be a midterm exam and two quizzes held in class during the semester and one comprehensive final exam. The following exam periods are tentative and therefore possibly subject to change (see moodle for any updates):

Midterm Exam	Oct 14-20, 2018 see moodle for any updates
Final Exam Period	December 15 - 21, 2018

**Makeup Exam Policy:** There will normally be **NO MAKE-UP QUIZZES OR EXAMS** during the semester. In the event that a student has a legitimate reason for missing a quiz or exam, the student should contact the Dean of Students office and present written verifiable proof of the reason for missing the exam, e.g., a doctor's note, police report, court notice, etc. clearly stating the date AND time of the mitigating problem. The student must also notify the CES Department Office/Instructor that the exam will be missed so that appropriate steps can be taken to make up the grade.

**Cellular Phones:** All cellular phones and other electronic devices must be switched off during all class times. Such devices must be stowed in bags during exams or quizzes.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Accommodation of Disabilities:** Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (*formerly known as Disability Support Services*) offers long term and temporary accommodations for undergraduate, graduate and visiting students at NJIT.

If you are in need of accommodations due to a disability please contact Chantonette Lyles, Associate Director at the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at **973-596-5417** or via email at [lyles@njit.edu](mailto:lyles@njit.edu). The office is located in Fenster Hall Room 260. A Letter of Accommodation Eligibility from the Office of Accessibility Resources Services office authorizing your accommodations will be required.

For further information regarding self-identification, the submission of medical documentation and additional support services provided please visit the Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) website at:

- <http://www5.njit.edu/studentuccess/disability-support-services/>

**Important Dates** (See: [Fall 2018 Academic Calendar, Registrar](#))

Date	Day	Event
September 4, 2018	T	First Day of Classes
September 10, 2018	M	Last Day to Add/Drop Classes
November 12, 2018	M	Last Day to Withdraw
November 20, 2018	T	Thursday Classes Meet
November 21, 2018	W	Friday Classes Meet
November 22 - 25, 2018	R - Su	Thanksgiving Break - University Closed
December 12, 2018	W	Last Day of Classes
December 14, 2018	F	Reading Day
December 15 - 21, 2018	F - R	Final Exam Period

# Course Outline

(see moodle for any changes and updates)

## **Week 1 Introduction: the nature of environmental rules and regulations**

**Text:** Chap 1

Course outline and synopsis

Syllabus (Moodle)

Study Guide (Moodle)

## **Week 2: Clean Water Act**

Chap 6

Discharge permits, effluent guidelines

## **Week 3: Clean Water Act: continued**

Chap 6

Nonpoint source, spill prevention

## **Week 4: Clean Air Act**

Chap 5 Primary, secondary standards; required technology levels

## **Week 5: Safe Drinking Water Act**

Chap 8

## **Week 6: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

Chap 10 Environmental Impact Statements

## **Week 7: Review and Midterm Exam**

## **Week 8: Toxic Substances Control Act**

Chap 12

## **Week 9: Introduction to Hazardous Waste Law: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)**

Chap 3

## **Week 10: RCRA Part II Chap 3**

## **Week 11: Superfund law: CERCLA**

Chap 9

**Writing Assignment, Due Week 11 or as instructed in class (see moodle)**

## **Week 12: no class Th Nov 23(holiday) CERCLA Superfund continued**

## **Week 13: Occupational Safety and Health Act Chap 16**

## **Week 14: Energy Law**

## **Week 15, Review**