

Fall 2023

EVSC 335-001: Environmental Law

Michael Bonchonsky

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EVSC 335 Environmental Law: *Fall 2023 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.

Students are asked to practice care and attention concerning academic honesty, with the understanding that all cases of plagiarism, cheating, multiple submission, and unauthorized collaboration are subject to penalty. Students must properly cite and attribute all sources used for papers and assignments. Students may not collaborate on exams or assignments, directly or through virtual consultation, unless the instructor gives specific permission to do so. Posting an exam, assignment, or answers to them on an online forum (before, during, or after the due date), in addition to consulting posted materials, constitutes a violation of the university's Honesty policy. Likewise, unauthorized use of live assistance websites, including seeking "expert" help for specific questions during an exam, can be construed as a violation of the honesty policy. All students should be familiar with the [NJIT Academic Integrity Code](#)

COURSE INFORMATION

Course-Section and Instructor: EVSC 335-001 Michael P. Bonchonsky FMH Rm 404. Meet ups with instructor via webex by apptmnt, in person by appointment also.

Class: "In Person" class Tu and Th 11:30- 12:50. Rm FMH 404 for Fall semester 2023
First class Tues Sept 5

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: 3cr **Prerequisites:** HUM 102

Office Hours Chemistry & Environmental Science Instructors: See Canvas [Fall 2022 Office Hours and Emails:](#) michael.p.bonchonsky@njit.edu Webex by apptment and before class 10-11 and after class until 2 PM.

Required Textbook:

Required Text: in bookstore...Environmental Law Handbook ISBN 978-1-64143-350-1, 2019, author: Thomas F P Sullivan, ed.; Publ.: The Rowman and Littlefield Publ. Group, Inc., Berman Press

Title	Environmental Law Handbook
Author	Thomas F. P. Sullivan, ed.
Edition	24 th edition, 2019 (scenic woods cover)
Publisher	Berman Press

University-wide Withdrawal Date: The last day to withdraw with a W is November 13, 2023. (always check academic calendar).

Learning Outcomes:

Note: the emphasis in each of these environmental statutes covered will be on the technical science and engineering requirements of each module topic such as standards and limits. The over arching purpose is to inform technical students of the regulatory context for the practice of environmental science and engineering.

General Environmental law: Compare the technical requirements of statutory law with common law; describe the development and roots of environmental law and its standards and limits.

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 emphasizing technical aspects of same, 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 MIE/CES students must familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, all official university-wide student policies. MIE/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	30
Participation	5

The final letter grade for this course will be assessed as below:

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

Attendance Policy: It is mandatory that weekly lectures be taken in per week through live attendance in class as shown on Canvas. 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 are shown on Canvas. Discussion forum participation is required each week and will be used in the determination of the “participation” portion 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 Canvas for any updates): see table below for dates.

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 or via email: oars@njit.edu at 973-596-5417. 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/studentssuccess/disability-support-services/>

Important Dates (See: [Fall 2023 Academic Calendar, Registrar](#))...See last page full calendar

Key dates for 2023 See Canvas for any changes		
First class	Sept 5	Read Chapter One, as assigned on
First quiz	Sept 28	Material covered in first 4 wks
Midterm	Oct 26	Material covered in first 7 weeks
Second quiz	Nov 16	Material covered week 7-11
Final	TBD	Exam date/week as published by NJIT

Course Outline

(see Canvas for any changes and updates, weekly dates)

Week 1 Introduction: The nature of environmental rules and regulations

Text: Chap 1

Course outline and synopsis

Syllabus (see Canvas)

Study Guide (see Canvas)

Week 2: Common law, Administrative Law

Chap 1, 2

Week 3: Clean Water Act:

Chap 6

Discharge permits, effluent guidelines, non point source, spill prevention

Week 4: Clean Air Act

Chap 5 Primary, secondary standards; required technology levels

Week 5: Safe Drinking Water Act

Chap 8 Emphasizing drinking water standards, and associated requirements

Week 6: National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Chap 10 Environmental Impact Statements

Week 7: Review and Midterm Exam (Oct 25)

Week 8: Toxic Substances Control Act

Chap 12 (TSCA chapter)

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

Chap 3 (RCRA chapter)

Week 10: RCRA Part II, Chap 3 con't.

Week 11: Superfund law: CERCLA

Chap 9 (CERCLA chapter)

Week 12: CERCLA Superfund continued

Week 13: Occupational Safety and Health Act Chap 16 (OSHA)

Week 14: Energy Law

Week 15, Review, Final exam date determined by NJIT exam schedule

Fall 2023 Academic Calendar

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Sept 4	Labor Day. University Closed
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Sept	5	First Day of Classes
Sept	11	Last Day to Add/Drop a Class
Sept	11	Last Day for 100% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal
Sept	12	W Grades Posted for Course Withdrawals
Sept	18	Last Day for 90% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal - No Refund for Partial Withdrawal after this date
Oct	2	Last Day for 50% Refund, Full Withdrawal
Oct	23	Last Day for 25% Refund, Full Withdrawal
Nov	13	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes
Nov	21	Thursday Classes Meet
Nov	22	Friday Classes Meet
Nov	23	Thanksgiving Recess Begins. No Classes
Nov	26	Thanksgiving Recess Ends
Dec	13	Last Day of Classes
Dec	14	Reading Day 1
Dec	15	Reading Day 2
Dec	16	Saturday Classes Meet
Dec	17	Final Exams Begin
Dec	23	Final Exams End
Dec	25	Final Grades Due