

## NRMT 470: Natural Resources Management (Capstone)

Fall 2006

Meeting Time: 3:00 - 4:55PM Mondays and Wednesdays

Meeting Place: Room 0538 Animal Science/Agricultural Engineering Building

Instructor:	Patrick Kangas
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Graduate Teaching Assistant:	Peter Sharpe
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Catalog description of NRMT 470: Field work, and independent research on watersheds. Intensive seminar on resource management planning and report preparation.

Course emphasis: This is the "capstone course" of the Natural Resources Management Program. Students will work in small groups on applied research projects. Goals of the course are 1) to provide students with practical experience in an environmental management problem and 2) to make a positive contribution to an agency or organization dealing with the environment. It is expected that the student projects will progress from the design to the implementation phases and result in completed projects. Thus, in a real sense, students will "learn by doing" in the course.

This is not a traditional course: there are no lectures and we will meet as a group irregularly for project up-dates. However, teams are expected to meet regularly to work on their projects. The course emphasizes creative and collaborative teamwork applied to a specific problem and thus is different than most courses.

Grading:	first draft report	20 %
	final written report	40 %
	final oral report	20 %
	participation/attendance	20 %

Written reports will be graded on coverage, organization and writing quality. They should be double-spaced typed and written in third person with a title page and references (cited with the style from the journal *ECOLOGY*). An oral report on the projects will also be required. Suggested outlines for both of the reports will be provided in class. Three copies of the final written report will be due on the last day of class. The final oral reports will be presented on the final exam date unless otherwise arranged.

All members of a group will receive the same grade on the oral report, the first draft and the final report. Thus, all members of the groups should contribute to the products of their group. 20 % of the course grade (participation/attendance) will be based on individual performance and a portion of this will be peer-based.

Any students with a documented disability and who wish to discuss academic accommodations should make arrangements early in the semester.

### **Tentative Schedule - NRMT 470**      Fall 2006

8/30	preliminary organizational meeting
9/4	no class: LABOR DAY HOLIDAY
9/6	preliminary organizational meeting
9/11	preliminary organizational meeting
9/13	individual group work
9/18	meet for an up-date
9/20	individual group work
9/25	meet for an up-date
9/27	individual group work
10/2	meet for an up-date
10/4	individual group work
10/9	meet for an up-date
10/11	individual group work
10/16	meet for an up-date
10/18	individual group work: first draft due
10/23	meet for an up-date
10/25	individual group work
10/30	meet for an up-date
11/1	individual group work
11/6	meet for an up-date
11/8	individual group work
11/13	meet for an up-date
11/15	individual group work
11/20	meet for an up-date
11/22	individual group work
11/27	meet for an up-date
11/29	individual group work
12/4	meet for an up-date
12/6	individual group work
12/11	final meeting; final written reports due
12/16	<i>final oral reports: 1:30-3:30PM</i>

**\*\*The schedule will adapt to the nature of the projects chosen by the students. It is, therefore, essential that group members keep track of the schedule and attend the up-dates for which attendance is mandatory.**

#### *Code of Academic Integrity*

*The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.shc.umd.edu>.*