This is a sample syllabus intended as a general guide only and deviations may be necessary (a final syllabus will be included in the course-book or available by contacting the office)

Lead Instructor: Dr. Catherine N. Clutter, Pre-law Program Director, cclutter@uga.edu
Program Director: Dr. Michael Tarrant, Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, UGA, tarrant@uga.edu
Office Address: Global Programs in Sustainability
Building One, Room 300
Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources
Athens, GA 30602-2152
Telephone: 706-542-9713
Website: www.discoverabroad.uga.edu
Contact Email: discoverabroad@uga.edu

Course Description

This is a study abroad course in Australia and New Zealand. The broad context includes an examination and comparison of environmental law issues confronting Australia, New Zealand and the United States with a focus on the major environmental statutes governing each nation along with emerging environmental practices and goals and the commonalities and disparities among the same. A study of the economic impact of environmental regulations and the growing environmental goods and services marketplace will be an integral emphasis of the course.

Course Objectives

The course is structured to provide an overview of the legal system and its impact on the allocation and regulation of our natural resources within an international comparative context. This course should:

1. Help students evaluate environmental law concepts and regulations in a comparative manner, identifying commonalities and distinctions between countries;
2. Increase students’ awareness of the challenges associated with environmental compliance in an increasingly globalized world;
3. Increase students’ ability to identify and analyze pertinent legal and business factors impacting environmental regulations and compliance therewith.
4. Conduct yourself in a manner consistent with Discover Abroad’s Professional, Academic, and Ethical Code of Conduct (refer to the Program Manual for a description and course-related implications).

Course Topics

1. Major clean water, clean air, environmental policy and natural resource management laws for the U.S., Australia, and New Zealand.
2. Climate change and other globally extensive environmental issues.
3. Analysis of cost and value added of environmental compliance.
4. Identification of local and global marketplace for environmental goods and services.
5. Local and global economic justice considerations involved with environmental compliance.
6. Determining appropriate natural resource use and allocation.
7. Consideration of indigenous environmental practices and concerns.

Course Credit

Credit is offered for 3 semester hours at the undergraduate level (5100) or for the graduate level (7100) in:

INTB International Business

Honors Option Credit

Honors students may obtain honors credit for 5100 with an Honors Option. Please follow these steps:

1. Download, complete, and submit the "Honors Option Application" form available at https://honors.uga.edu/forms/current_students/courses_and_adv/honors_option_app.pdf
2. You need to complete one form for each 3 credit hour course.
3. There are additional requirements for Honors Option credit, see "Additional Course Assignment for Graduate Credit and Honors Option" below.

Prerequisites

All students in good academic standing are eligible to take the course. There are no prerequisites.

Attendance

Punctual attendance at all scheduled program–related activities is required, including group meetings, discussions, field excursions, as well as lectures and any other scheduled activities. Participation in field activities (such as hiking, snorkeling, swimming, etc.) is voluntary and at the discretion of the student; however, should you wish not to participate you must inform the instructor. An excused absence or decision not to participate in one or any of these field activities will not affect your course grade. During the field studies, no student may leave the group without the consent of the faculty supervisor. Unless an absence is approved by one of the instructors or the program director, students will lose 10% of their final grade for each day or part-day they fail to participate. Unexcused absences or chronic late arrival to program activities may, at the discretion of the Program Director, be grounds for dismissal from the program.

Academic Honesty

All academic work must meet the standards contained in the University’s Culture of Honesty policy (www.uga.edu/honesty). All students are responsible for informing themselves about those standards before performing any academic work. The penalties for academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) award of a failing grade for the course, suspension, notification placed on the student’s transcript of their having been found guilty of cheating, and expulsion from the university, and ignorance is not an acceptable defense. Academic dishonesty will be reported to the University Academic Policy Panel.

Special Accommodations

Any student(s) who require special accommodation(s) or other requirements in this course must contact the instructor before or at the UGA on-campus orientation and register with UGA Disability Resource Center (www.drc.uga.edu). Some activities include moderate exercise, such as hiking and snorkeling.

Course-book

You are required to bring a laptop or notebook with Microsoft Word software (ipads, kindles, or other similar electronic reading devices are not acceptable for course assignments). The course-book will be provided electronically via jump drive, which is available for purchase at Bel-Jean’s Copy/Print Service, 163 East Broad
Optional Reading

For pre-departure (optional) reading, we recommend:


Course Requirements

*Field modules (70%)*

The field modules are location-based questions to be answered as individually written 250-word essays, peer-reviewed essays, group debates, site quizzes, and/or research projects (due at intervals throughout the program – see the Itinerary). Refer to the Field Modules Introduction and Overview for details on assessment expectations and submission requirements for each of the various forms of modules. This course requirement meets the following learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4.

*Final exam (30%)*

The exam may draw material from any reading, field exercise, lecture, or discussion, and you may refer to your notes from lectures and field activities. Approximately 70% of the exam will be short, objective (completion, multiple choice, t/f, etc.) questions drawn from lectures, field experiences, or readings, and 30% percent of the exam will be essay based. Date as listed on the itinerary. This course requirement meets the following learning outcomes: 1, 2, 3, 4.

*Additional Assignment for Graduate or Honors Option Credit*

Graduate credit for the course requires both of the following: (1) the quality of the presentations, written exam material, and project assignments will be of a higher quality than at the undergraduate level. Accordingly, written material and project assignments will receive more rigorous grading than at the undergraduate level. (2) An integrative essay that clearly demonstrates an ability to synthesize concepts and material across the study abroad program using real-world scenarios and local (i.e., country-specific) research that builds upon the material learned in the field and class environments. The essay is to be 500 typed words (excluding references and any appendices) in Arial 9.5 point font (single-spaced) and emailed as one electronic (Word or .pdf) file.
(titled “graduate credit <first and last name> <study abroad country>”) to the Lead Instructor within 4 weeks of the completion of the program. (Failure to meet a pass grade for the assignment(s) and/or submit the assignment(s) by the due date may result in an incomplete grade.) Include the date, as well as your first and last name on the header of the file. You will be expected to include external citations (which must be fully referenced), and to write in a well executed, grammatically correct style. Respond to the following question: “How did the study abroad experience influence your understanding of global and U.S. issues of sustainability?”

Grade Assessment

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A 93 – 100 percent
- A- 89.5 – 92.9 percent
- B+ 87 – 89.4 percent
- B 83 – 86.9 percent
- B- 79.5 – 82.9 percent
- C+ 77 – 79.4 percent
- C 73 – 76.0 percent
- C- 69.5 – 72.9 percent
- D 59.5 - 69.4 percent
- F below 59.4 percent

Course Itinerary

Refer to the sample itineraries available online. Final itineraries will be distributed on arrival in-country or contact the office for the most recent version.