

# EVSP699 16

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

## Course Summary

**Course :** EVSP699 **Title :** Environmental Policy and Management Capstone

**Length of Course :** 16

**Prerequisites :** EVSP601 **Credit Hours :** 3

## Description

**Course Description:** Designed specifically for students with an interest in scholarly research or continuing their academic career in doctoral studies, this course requires students to present original scholarly research. The capstone thesis must have a substantial research component, which will include research questions and presentation of an original argument using proper academic writing conventions. Students writing a capstone thesis will collect and analyze data from carefully documented primary and/or secondary sources, and will develop a rigorous research paper in the style of a traditional scientific paper (i.e., abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, references). The capstone thesis must represent an original contribution to the body of knowledge within the broad field of environmental policy and management. The theories, research methods, analytical skills, and substantive knowledge obtained through the Environmental Policy and Management curriculum provide the basis for the thesis project. This course may not be taken until 30 credit hours have been successfully completed and student has a 3.0 GPA. This course is 16 weeks in length. Prerequisite: EVSP601.

### Course Scope:

The EVSP699 end of program option requires each student to compose an original thesis, which should present original research. A suitable style of capstone thesis includes original research or a meta-analysis of an appropriate topic in environmental policy and management. This end of program option is desirable for those students who wish to focus on specific subject matter of an interdisciplinary nature or who would like to continue their education at a higher level. [As of September 2017, students who have previously passed EVSP500 Research Methods may waive the required pre-requisite course EVSP601 Capstone Proposal.]

## Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- LO-1 Practice sound research methods in support of scholarly research.
- LO-2 Apply the scientific method to the investigation of a research hypothesis or research question(s).
- LO-3 Discriminate between scientifically valid, primary literature and popular literature.
- LO-4 Evaluate an environmental policy and management issue through quantitative and qualitative means.

- LO-5 Formulate new research questions, using scientific data, reason and persuasion in a logical argument.
  - LO-6 Demonstrate professional communication skills.
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## Outline

### Week 1:

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Assignments

Forum 1

Brainstorm Exercise

### Week 2:

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Assignments

Forum 2

Capstone Proposal

### Week 3:

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Assignments

Forum 3

Research Journal 1

### Week 4:

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Assignments

Forum 4

Research Journal 2

### Week 5:

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Assignments

Forum 5

### Week 6:

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Assignments

Forum 6

### Week 7:

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Assignments

Forum 7

1st Submission Capstone Thesis

**Week 8:**

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Assignments

Forum 8

**Week 9:**

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Assignments

Forum 9

**Week 10:**

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Assignments

Forum 10

2nd Submission Capstone Thesis

**Week 11:**

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Assignments

Forum 11

**Week 12:**

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Assignments

Forum 12

**Week 13:**

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Assignments

Forum 13

3 Minute Thesis Presentation

**Week 14:**

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Assignments

Forum 14

**Week 15:**

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## Assignments

Forum 15

Final Submission Capstone Thesis

### **Week 16:**

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## Assignments

Forum 16

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## **Evaluation**

### **Grading:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Grade %</b>
Forum	1.00 %
Forum 1	0.06 %
Forum 2	0.06 %
Forum 3	0.06 %
Forum 4	0.06 %
Forum 5	0.06 %
Forum 6	0.06 %
Forum 7	0.06 %
Forum 8	0.06 %
Forum 9	0.06 %
Forum 10	0.06 %
Forum 11	0.06 %
Forum 12	0.06 %
Forum 13	0.06 %
Forum 14	0.06 %
Forum 15	0.06 %
Forum 16	0.06 %
Assignments	1.00 %
Brainstorm Exercise	0.17 %
Capstone Proposal	0.17 %
Research Journal 1	0.17 %
Research Journal 2	0.17 %
1st Submission Capstone Thesis	0.17 %
2nd Submission Capstone Thesis	0.17 %
Presentation	10.00 %
3 Minute Thesis Presentation	10.00 %
Final	88.00 %
Final Submission Capstone Thesis	88.00 %

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## Materials

**Book Title:** There are no required books for this course.

**Author:**

**Publication Info:**

**ISBN:** NTR

### Required Readings and Other Resources

Identified in the Lessons

**Additional Resources:** Please go to the program guides in the APUS Library for additional resources:

Environmental Policy and Management:

[http://apus.campusguides.com/environmental\\_policy\\_management?hs=a](http://apus.campusguides.com/environmental_policy_management?hs=a)

### Software Requirements

- Microsoft Office (MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint) - American Public University System provides Microsoft Office 365 to AMU/APU students and faculty at no cost
- Adobe Acrobat Reader

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## Course Guidelines

### Citation and Reference Style

- Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

### Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](http://Tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours\* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

### Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each Assignment.
- Generally speaking, late work may result in a deduction up to 15% of the grade for each day late, not to exceed 5 days.
- As a working adult I know your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

### Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some

cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.

## Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

## Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc) See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.

## Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

## Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting time after which the instructor will grade comments, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.
- “Substantive” means comments that contribute something new and hopefully important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says “I agree” is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
- As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.

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## University Policies

### [Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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