Instructors:
Dr. Marcel Reichert, ReichertM@dnr.sc.gov, 843-953 5778, MRRI Room 160
Dr. Tracey Smart, SmartT@dnr.sc.gov, 843-953 9226, MRRI Room 158

Class Meets: MRRI 145, Wednesdays: 5:00 - 6:30 pm

Office Hours: By appointment.

Text:
No text. Important references will be E-mailed to the class.

Description:
An introduction to current issues in marine policy and conservation. This class will consist of a series of presentations by experts in the field, followed by a class discussion on the topic at hand. The structure of the classes will vary and may include panel discussions, class discussions, and debates. Although covered topics and principles are widely applicable, emphasis will be on issues relevant to the US, and in particular the SE region.

Goals:
Become familiar with various current marine policy and conservation issues in the SE region. Learn about, discuss, analyze, and report on various aspects of marine policy and conservation, such as issues involving research, management, policy making, stakeholder interests, and political processes.

Student Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course the students will have obtained basic knowledge of key marine policy and conservation principles and various current marine policy and conservation related issues in the southeastern US (e.g. fisheries management, role of NGO’s, invasive species, marine protected areas, coastal development, and endangered species). The knowledge should enable the students to understand and evaluate marine policy and conservation issues, and have an understanding of significant concerns, stakeholder’s interests, and processes.

Requirements:
Prepare for and attend class. Actively participate in discussions and debates. Prepare and submit written analyses on the topics discussed in class each week (due each Friday at 5pm). Attend at least one relevant public hearing or meeting (instructors prior approval required) and write a critical analysis of this meeting prior to April 19. Students will present an oral presentation on a topic specifically related to the one or more of the issues discussed in class and submit a 1 page summary of the presentations topic at time of their presentation. Further details of reports, presentation topics, and a schedule of appropriate public meetings will be discussed in class.

Resources:
Reading materials will be distributed by e-mail or as hand-outs in class as needed.

Evaluation:
Class participation 50%
Written reports and assignments 35%
Oral presentation 15%
Disabilities accommodations
If there is a student in the class who has a documented disability and has been approved to receive accommodations through the Center for Disability Services / SNAP, arrangements will be made to accommodate that student. The student should contact the instructors prior to the start of the first class to discuss these accommodations.

Course Schedule:
Speakers and topics for the classes will be announced as soon as they become available. Students are encouraged to suggest both topics and presenters.

Tentative class schedule (speakers and topics subject to change):

1. January 9 Course Introduction
2. January 16 Marine Policy and Conservation - General principles
3. January 23 Amber VonHarten and Cameron Rhodes (SAFMC)
4. January 30 Peter Kingsley Smith (SCDNR) invasive species
5. February 6 Mary Conley (TNC)
6. February 13 Marcel Reichert – Fisheries governance in the US
7. February 20 Lora Clark (Pew)
8. February 27 Anna Toline (Nat. Park Service)
9. March 6 Lt. Warren Fair (Coast Guard)
10. March 13 TBA
     March 20 No class, spring break
11. March 27 TBA
12. April 4 John Carmichael
13. April 11 George Sedberry (MPA)
14. April 17 Student presentations

NOTE: No late assignments accepted - No exceptions!

Student presentation details will be discussed in class.