

Northern Marianas College

CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Course: NR295 Natural Resource Management Seminar

Effective Semester / Session: FALL 2025

Type of Action:

- ☐ New
- ☒ Modification
- ☐ Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- ☐ Cancellation

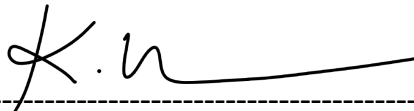
Course Alpha and Number: NR295 (Previously BI295)

Course Title: Natural Resource Management Seminar

Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:

The course guide is being updated to reflect routine course updates, such as course purpose, prerequisites, and instruction materials required.

Kelsey McClellan



5.27.2025

Proposer

Date


Velma C. Deleon Guerrero



May 27, 2025

Academic Unit Head

Date



Adam Walsh

5.22.2025

Language & Format Review Specialist

Date

Yunzi Zhang



May 27, 2025

Academic Council Chair

Date

Lorraine C. Maui



May 27, 2025

Interim Dean of Academic Programs & Services

Date

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Course: NR295 Natural Resource Management Seminar

1. Department

Natural Resource Management

2. Purpose

NR295 is a required core curriculum course for NRM majors that serves as a foundation for professional development and scholarly engagement. The course provides students with the opportunity to explore topics of special interest or current relevance to the physical and applied sciences through oral presentations, demonstrations, and Socratic seminars centered on scientific literature. Students will develop their ability to critically analyze research, articulate ideas, and engage in thoughtful discourse, transforming personal observations and classroom theory into meaningful professional dialogue. Emphasizing the application of professional ethics and philosophy, this course fosters the communication and critical thinking skills essential for career readiness. Prospective employers in both governmental and private sectors have frequently emphasized the need for a course with this focus, recognizing its value in preparing students for success in their professional paths.

3. Description

A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials

There is no text for this course. Handouts, Internet and web-based assignments, and related materials will be supplied by the course coordinator as necessary.

B. Contact Hours

1. **Lecture:** 1.5 per week / 24.5 per semester

2. **Lab:** None

3. **Other:** None

C. Credits

1. **Number:** 1

2. **Type:** Regular Degree Credits

D. Catalog Course Description

NR 295 consists of seminar presentations of special topics in the agricultural, environmental, and natural resource sciences by faculty, enrolled students, and invited speakers. This course is designed to familiarize students with topics of research, special interests, or current relevance in the discipline. Scientific articles and journals will also be selected for discussion by the class. Prerequisites: NR150 "C or Higher" (Offered in the Spring semester).

E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course

This course fulfills the requirements for AS degree in Natural Resource Management.

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F. Course Activities and Design

This course consists of interviews, oral presentations, or demonstrations by faculty, students, and invited speakers. In addition, students will engage with scientific literature through Socratic seminars, where they will critically analyze and discuss peer-reviewed research and other scholarly sources. Each enrolled student is required to give an oral presentation or a demonstration on a topic for critique by the peer group. Students are expected to take an active role in discussions, applying professional ethics, critical thinking, and disciplinary philosophy throughout the course.

4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment

Prerequisites: NR150 with a grade of C or better

Concurrent Course Enrollment: None

Required English/Mathematics Proficiency Level(s)

English Placement Level: EN101

Mathematics Placement Level: MA132

5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed

Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 1-credit course and all applicable instructional materials and/or technology fees

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary.

Instructional resources needed for this course include: internet, projector and whiteboard.

6. Method of Evaluation

Student progress will be evaluated for this course by attendance, active participation in course discussions, and an oral presentation or demonstration indicating the student's knowledge and understanding of a specific subject matter within the discipline. NMC's grading and attendance policies will be followed.

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7. Course Outline

This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented.

- 1.0 Oral presentations by students in areas of interest
- 2.0 Oral presentations by departmental faculty or guest lecturers
- 3.0 Invited speakers from various federal and local government agencies whose responsibilities involve water, land, marine, and air stewardship
- 4.0 Reading and critiquing scientific journal articles, peer review and critique of student presentations and demonstrations
- 5.0 Discussions of current environmental activities in the Commonwealth, the Pacific Basin, and the world

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8. Instructional Goals

The course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 The concepts of professional ethics and philosophy in science;
- 2.0 A mentored and focused effort to enhance public speaking skills and competencies;
- 3.0 An opportunity to interact with professionals in the discipline;
- 4.0 A mentored and focused effort to enhance technical writing skills and competencies;
- 5.0 The technique of peer review and critiquing scientific journals, presentations, and demonstrations; and
- 6.0 Knowledge of environmental activities in the Commonwealth, the Pacific Island States, and the world.

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9. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- 1.0 Explain and discuss the concepts of professional ethics and philosophy in science;
- 2.0 Demonstrate enhanced public speaking skills and competencies;
- 3.0 Confidently interact with professionals in the discipline;
- 4.0 Demonstrate enhanced technical writing skills and competencies;
- 5.0 Explain, demonstrate, and discuss the techniques of peer review; and
- 6.0 Knowledgeably discuss environmental activities.

10. Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes

Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1.0 Discussion Rubric;
- 2.0 Written Portfolio;
- 3.0 Oral Presentations; and
- 4.0 Projects.












NR295.2

Final Audit Report

2025-05-27

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