



ESP 166: Ocean and Coastal Policy (Every year Fall quarter)

The class provides students with a broad natural and social science understanding of ocean and coastal policies and management in the United States. Specific topics covered include coastal zone land use and management, Law of the Sea, offshore energy development, marine protected areas, aquaculture, recreation and commercial fisheries management, and the changing conditions in the Arctic. We will also discuss contemporary issues specific to California, including California Coastal Commission and coastal land use, Marine Life Protection Act, Dungeness Crab Fishery, and Kelp restoration.

The specific objectives of the course are for students to understand:

- the contemporary issues surrounding ocean and coastal resources in California and the United States more broadly
- the historical basis for why and how we manage coastal and ocean resources
- the policy and politics surrounding ocean and coastal resources in the United States
- the ecological, economic, and social impacts of ocean and coastal policies, including the role of Federal and State Governments

Course Topics

I: Introduction to course, introduction to U.S. Ocean and coastal resources and critical issues

II: Coastal Zone Management

- a.) Historical perspective on U.S. ocean and coastal management and coastal ecosystems and processes
- b.) Public and private ownership in the Coastal Zone and Public Trust Doctrine
- c.) Tools for Managing Coastal Resources and the role of Federal and State policies
- d.) Managing Invasive Species in the Coastal Zone

III: Ocean Resources

- a.) Offshore oil and gas energy development
- b.) History of U.S. Commercial Fisheries Regulation
- c.) Commercial Fisheries Management
- d.) Marine protected areas
- e.) Aquaculture
- f.) CA Ocean and Fishery Management (MLPA, Dungeness Crab, Kelp restoration)
- g.) Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
- h.) Arctic Resources