

**Northern Marianas College**  
**CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST**

**Effective Semester / Session:** Fall 2018

**Type of Action:**

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

**Course Alpha and Number:** NR 255 (Previously BI 255)

**Course Title:** Conservation Politics and Economics

**Reason for initiating, modifying, or canceling:**

This course is being modified for periodic updates and addition of required textbooks.

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Dr. Alfredo B. De Torres

3-28-19

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Proposer

Date

  
Dr. Alfredo B. De Torres

3-28-19

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Department Chair

Date

  
Adam Walsh

6.5.20.19

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Language & Format Review Specialist

Date

Ajani Burrell

  
4/5/19

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Academic Council Chair

Date

  
Charlotte Cepeda

6/11/19

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Dean, Learning and Student Success

Date

# Northern Marianas College Course Guide

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Course: NR255

## 1. Department

Natural Resource Management

## 2. Purpose

NR 255 is the fourth core course in the Natural Resource Management, Associate in Science degree. Natural Resource Management is an inter-disciplinary program that emphasizes a theoretical and applied approach to agricultural, environmental, and natural resource production, assessment, classification, problem or phenomena mitigation, policy, and related conservation issues. This course provides academic training and on-the-job experience with a student focus on utilization, conservation, and protection of our land, sea, water, and air.

## 3. Description

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

Required:

Holechek, J. L., et. al. *Natural Resources: Ecology, Economics, & Policy*. New Jersey. Prentice Hall, 2003.

Readability level: Grade 10

Recommended:

Ferry, Steven. *Environmental Law: Examples & Explanations*. New York. Aspen Publishers, 2010.

Readability level: Grade 12

Furey, John, et. al. *Island Ecology & Resource Management*. Saipan, MP: Northern Marianas College Press, 2006.

Readability level: Grade 10

### B. Contact Hours

1. **Lecture:** 3 per week / 45 per semester
2. **Lab:** 3 per week / 45 per semester
3. **Other:** N/A

### C. Credits

1. **Number:** 4
2. **Type:** Regular degree credits

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**D. Catalogue Course Description**

NR 255 examines the role of government in resource management, valuing in the absence of prices and economic externalities. Topics include politics and economic development, cost/benefit analysis, public goods and externalities, land use planning and zoning, federal and international environmental laws; three hours of lecture with laboratory/field trips required. Prerequisite: NR253. English Placement Level: EN101. Math Placement Level: MA132

**E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course**

This course fulfills the core/program requirement in the A.S. degree program of Natural Resource Management. This course also serves as a science elective for non-majors in NRM and other related degree programs.

**F. Course Activities and Design**

This course incorporates lectures, guest speakers, audiovisual presentations, student oral presentations, take-home and web-based assignments, laboratory exercises, field trips, periodic quizzes, tests, a class project, and comprehensive final exam.

**4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment**

Prerequisites: NR253 with a grade of C or better

Concurrent Course Enrollment: N/A

**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 4-credit course, cost of textbook, and instructional materials fee.

Cost to the College: Instructor's salary.

Instructional resources needed for this course include classroom and laboratory space, chalkboard/white board and supplies, TV/VCR, videotaped programs, digital camera, video flex camera attachment for microscopes, stereo and compound microscopes, microscope slides and cover slips, multimedia projector, basic laboratory and field supplies.

**6. Method of Evaluation**

Student progress will be evaluated on the basis of class participation, oral presentations, assignments, laboratory/field trip reports, quizzes, tests, a class project, and comprehensive final exam. 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 Politics and Economic Development

- 1.1 Money and markets
- 1.2 Supply/Demand and prices
- 1.3 Valuing in the absence of prices

### 2.0 Cost/Benefit Analysis

- 2.1 Public goods and externalities
- 2.2 Market sectors
- 2.3 Growth and values of economic sectors
- 2.4 Factors for success and future projections

### 3.0 Land Use Planning and Zoning

- 3.1 Master plans
- 3.2 Zoning
- 3.3 Development permits
- 3.4 Applying performance standards
- 3.5 Enforcement

### 4.0 Federal/International Environmental Laws

- 4.1 Governments role in resource management
- 4.2 Compliance with international and federal laws
- 4.3 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) laws and regulatory enforcement

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**8. Instructional Goals**

The course will introduce students to:

- 1.0 The role of politics and economic development in resource management;
- 2.0 The concepts of cost/benefit analysis as applied to natural resources;
- 3.0 Land use planning and zoning; and
- 4.0 Federal/International/CNMI environmental laws and regulatory enforcement.

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**9. Student Learning Outcomes**

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

- 1.0 Identify and explain the roles of politics and economic development in resource management;
- 2.0 Describe and apply the concepts of cost/benefit analysis as applied to natural resources;
- 3.0 Integrate appropriate land use planning and zoning; and
- 4.0 Demonstrate knowledge of the Federal/International/CNMI environmental laws and regulatory enforcement procedures.

**10. Assessment Measures of Student Learning Outcomes**

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

- 1.0 Recitation;
- 2.0 Participation;
- 3.0 Tests;
- 4.0 Case Reports;
- 5.0 Research Project;
- 6.0 Presentations; and
- 5.0 Comprehensive Final Exam