SEE-U Colorado: Land Use in the Rocky Mountains

Week 1

Monday: History of the West

  9 AM—12 PM: Welcome and Lecture
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Guest Lecture – Patty Limerick, the history of the American West
  2 PM—4 PM: Film – The Greatest Good (U.S. Forest Service)

Tuesday: Trip to Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest

  9 AM—12 PM: Emergence and history of public lands
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Guest Speaker – Greg Aplet, Senior Ecologist with The Wilderness Society
  2 PM—4 PM: Visit Wilderness area

Wednesday: Preservation vs. Conservation

  9 AM—12 PM: Land Management Agencies and Governance
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Guest Speaker – Jeff Kitchens, BLM Supervisor – Challenges facing the BLM

Thursday: Trip to Rocky Mountain National Park

  9 AM—12 PM: Visitor’s Center and interpretive tour
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Guest Speaker – NPS Leader

Friday: Conflicts on Public Lands

  9 AM—12 PM: Quiz 1, Capstone project discussions
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Enduring conflicts on Public Lands: energy development, timber extraction, recreation conflict, habitat protection, wildfire management, grazing

Saturday: Land ownership

  9 AM—12 PM: Checkerboard land ownership, state trust lands

Sunday: Rest day and office hours

Week 2

Monday: Role of the state in land use across the American West

  9 AM—12 PM: Quiz 1, Capstone project discussions
  12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
  1 PM—2 PM: Attend State Land Board meeting
Tuesday: Energy Development

9 AM—12 PM: Energy development on public, private, and state lands
12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
1 PM—2 PM: Field trip to land with energy development in process
2 PM—4 PM: Guest speaker from oil and gas company representative

Wednesday: Private land and working landscapes

9 AM—12 PM: Payments for ecosystem services, conservation easements, and water law and management
12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
1 PM—2 PM: Collaborative processes
2 PM—4 PM: Guest speaker – Carol Ekarius, representative from Coalition for the Upper South Platte, local collaborative group

Thursday: Trip to private land with a Conservation Easement

9 AM—12 PM: Tour land, learn about how management plan structures conservation of property
12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
1 PM—4 PM: Guest speakers: land owner, land trust representative

Friday: Wildfire

9 AM—12 PM: Quiz 2, Planning to reduce risk of wildfires, challenges across boundaries, suppressing fire, recovering after a fire
12 PM—1 PM: Lunch break
1 PM—2 PM: Field tour: Hayman wildfire site
2 PM—4 PM: Guest speaker – environmental and political lessons learned from notorious Hayman fire

Saturday: Water in the American West

9 AM—12 PM: Guest speaker – Mike King, Director of Planning, Denver Water

Sunday: Rest day and office hours

Week 3

Monday: Capstone

9 AM—4 PM: Student Presentations

Tuesday: Capstone

9 AM—4 PM: Student Presentations

Wednesday: Last day of class

9 AM—4 PM: Final exam, Submit final paper