

# Course Profile

Course Name: Chinese Environmental Law

Course Code: X190671

Course Credits: 1

Course Category: Required Elective

Terms Offered:

Fall \_\_\_\_\_

Spring 1-6 week

Summer\_\_\_\_\_

Course Pre/Co-requisites: none

Textbook: own materials, including my slides, my English articles and cases. An English reference is Charles R. McElwee, Environmental Law in China: Mitigating Risk and Ensuring Compliance (Oxford 2011). Because this book unfortunately is very expensive, I will share some of the content with you in the class or before the class.

Instructor: ZHAO Huiyu

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[Office] 471, Leo Koguan Law Building

[Office Hours]: by appointment.

Course Description:

This course provides a comparative overview of how the legal systems of China are addressing significant environmental problems. After an introduction to the political and legal systems of China, the course examines how Chinese law seeks to control pollution and to protect the

environment, enormous challenges in a rapidly developing country of 1.3 billion people. The course will partly compare and contrast approaches to regulation used in China with those employed by the U.S. The environmental policies of these countries are particularly important because they are the two countries with the greatest impact on the world's environment. While China has a considerable body of mature environmental legislation, the country lacks both an independent judiciary and a tradition of respect for the rule of law.

#### Grading Policy:

Thirty percent (30%) of your grade in this course will be based on the quality of your participation. Seventy percent (70%) of your grade will be based on a short paper that is due on Saturday August 2. The paper may consolidate the responses that you make to the questions on the Discussion Board.

#### Syllabus:

Class #1: Introduction to the History and Structure of Environmental Law in China.

Class #2: Tuesday July 22: The Role of Civil Society in Environmental Governance in the United States and China.

Class #3: Wednesday July 23: Environmental Impact Assessment.

Class #4: Thursday July 24: Air and Water Pollution Control.

Class #5: Monday July 28: Waste Management, Remediation of Environmental Contamination & Regulation of Chemical Products.

Class #6: Tuesday July 29: Environmental Enforcement.

Class #7: Wednesday July 30: Climate Change and Energy Policy.

Class #8: Thursday July 31: Transparency Initiatives to Improve Corporate Environmental Performance and Transnational Liability Litigation.