

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO**  
**CE 5390 CRN 26429, 4375 CRN 22859, CE 4376 CRN 22860**  
**CE 4377 CRN 23202**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE MANAGEMENT**

**SYLLABUS**  
**SPRING 2024**

**COURSE INFORMATION:**

**CE 5390, CRN 24851, CE 4375 CRN 22859,**  
**CE 4376 CRN 22860, CE 4377 CRN 23202**  
**CLASS TIME: TUE & THU 06:30 PM – 07:20 PM**  
**CLASS MODE: IN CLASSROOM**

CLASS MEETING PLACE	Engineering Classroom RM 301
INSTRUCTOR:	Dr. Henry Van
INSTRUCTOR'S OFFICE NUMBER/BUILDING	Civil Engineering Room A202
OFFICE HOURS (Dr. Van's)	Tue. - 08:30 AM – 11:30 AM & 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Wed.- 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM Thu. - 08:30 AM – 11:30 AM & 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Fri. - 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM & 2:00 AM – 4:00 PM
PHONE:	Office: (915) 747-6966, Cell: 915-255-9593 (Preferred)
EMAIL:	<a href="mailto:hvan2@utep.edu">hvan2@utep.edu</a>
TEACHING ASSISTANT (TA):	N/A
TA OFFICE	N/A
TA OFFICE HOURS	N/A
EMAIL	N/A
LIBRARIAN:	Debjani Mukhopadhyay <a href="mailto:dmukhopadhyay@utep.edu">dmukhopadhyay@utep.edu</a>
TEXTBOOK: None	Professor's PowerPoint Slides will be used

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**OTHER MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- One three ring binder or notebook for readings/handouts, class notes, assignments and/or journal entries.
- Access to computer or laptop.
- Scientific calculator.

**MATERIALS PROVIDED – POWERPOINT SLIDES & LINKS TO TECHNICAL VIDEOS**

- **Lecture PowerPoint Slides** of Dr. Van's lessons will be provided in Blackboard course website.
- Links of places for further reading suggestions in the Blackboard course Homepage.
- **Links for Videos** to further explain topics will be provided in the lecture slides. It is critical that you study these videos because they are carefully selected to further clarify technical topics and present excellent photos and diagrams to give you a good understanding of the importance of environmental compliance programs.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to teach you what environmental compliance is about and its importance in the practical world of industry, business, and government. The environment in which industry, business and government operate today is full of environmental laws and regulations which must be complied with and failing to do so it can bring those organizations major legal issues, fines, and jail time. Anyone that will work in the U.S. workforce will be at one time or another exposed to requirements of environmental laws and regulations, or ask to contribute to their compliance but also may select to be a member of an Environmental Compliance Department coordinating the compliance of the organization in which they work.

We now have fifty approximately 58 years of experience complying with environmental laws and regulations and still the regulatory climate continues to become more complex as new regulations are enacted and technology advances. Therefore, this course will teach about these laws and regulations required and how you the environmental engineer or scientist should manage their compliance. Compliance management is a remarkably interesting topic and companies and government take it very seriously because if the activities they do

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are not in compliance with environmental laws and regulations it can expose them to high risks and negative impacts to communities. For this reason, companies and government hire professionally trained environmental engineers, scientists and specialists to support the organization to navigate through the environmental compliance network.

In this course you will become familiar with the legal and regulatory network that you will use to develop a real-life Environmental Compliance Plan. You will work in Teams. Dr. Van will form the Teams and will nominate at random a Team Leader.

Your textbook is an excellent handbook divided into eight parts which will be presented in slides presentations, but you will need the handbook to expand your knowledge.

The eight parts are as follows:

**Part I – Introduction**

Here you will get the explanation of the purpose and scope of environmental laws and regulations as well as introduction of basic principles of administrative law which will help you understand the nature and scope of authority granted to governmental agencies to administer and enforce environmental laws and regulations.

**Part II – Origins of US Environmental Regulation**

- Common Law Theory
- Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)

**Part III – Water Pollution Control**

**Part IV – Air Pollution Control**

**Part V – Hazardous and Toxic Substance Regulation** (most extensive part)

**Part VI – Pollution Prevention**

**Part VII – Environmental Control of Land**

**Part VIII – The International Perspective**

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**COURSE OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

After completing the course, students should be able to learn the following:

- **An overview of the environmental legal system.**
- **The origins of the U.S. Environmental Regulations**
  - ✓ Common Law Principles
  - ✓ National Environmental Policy Act
- **The Water Pollution Control**
  - ✓ Clean Water Act
  - ✓ Safe Drinking Water Act
- **The Air Pollution Control**
  - ✓ Clean Air Act
- **The Hazardous and Toxic Substance Regulations**
  - ✓ Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
  - ✓ Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act
  - ✓ Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act
  - ✓ Toxic Substances Control Act
- **Pollution Prevention**
  - ✓ Pollution Prevention Act
  - ✓ Federal and State Programs Focusing on Waste Minimization and Recycling
- **Environmental Control of Land Use**
  - ✓ Wetlands Regulation under the Clean Water Act
  - ✓ Coastal Zone Management Act
  - ✓ Endangered Species Act
- **International Environmental Law**
  - ✓ When working in other countries there may be situations in which these countries may not have strong environmental laws and regulations and you may have to consult with the United Nations International Laws and Regulations.

The key objective is that when you finish this course you know about the U.S. Environmental Laws and Regulations governing the country's business, industry, and government activities and that you know the importance complying with these laws and regulations.

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The outcome of this course is for you to be prepared to prepare a business, industry, and government “Environmental Compliance Plan.” This Plan is the guide for an organization to ensure that all parties involved know what needs to be done to comply properly with all applicable requirements and avoid **“Notices of Violation”** and **“Fines”**

You will be provided with Dr. Henry Van’s lecture notes that were prepared using an Env. Law Compliance Handbook and his over 40 years as a Environmental, Health & Safety Compliance Executive with major oil, natural gas, electric and manufacturing industry.

Whether you are an environmental manager or engineer, this course will require you to prepare a real industry environmental compliance plan just as it is used in real industry or government installation scenarios.

**STUDENT CONDUCT**

All students are expected and required to obey federal, state, and local laws, to comply with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, with The University of Texas System and University rules and regulations, with directives issued by an administrative official of the U.T. System or The University of Texas at El Paso in the course of his or her authorized duties, and to observe standards of conduct appropriate for an academic institution.

**SYLLABUS CHANGE POLICY**

Except for changes that affect the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. I will keep you informed if it is necessary for me to update the syllabus and will explain the reasons. A class calendar will be prepared for you to know what topics will be lectured on and exams given.

**UTEP FINAL EXAM POLICY**

Exemption from final examinations cannot be given. Final examinations are scheduled to be two hours, forty-five (45) minutes in length and take place during the final examination period. It is the policy of the University not to administer a second final examination in a course. It is also University policy that students shall not have more than two final examinations in a single day. In the unlikely event that the examination schedule results in a student having three final

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examinations on a single day, the faculty member upon the request of the student shall reschedule the second of that student's three examinations.

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**COPYRIGHT STATEMENT**

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textbooks are not “fair use” under the Copyright Act. The “fair use doctrine” only permits non-commercial copying of part (in general, not more than 10%) of a copyrighted work. Your cooperation is expected.

<b>GRADING:</b>	<b>2 Exams</b>	<b>50%</b>
	<b>Project Report in Excel</b>	<b>40%</b>
	<b>Class Participation, and Class Activities</b>	<b>5%</b>
	<b>Course Survey</b>	<b>5%</b>
		<b>100%</b>

**SEMESTER PROJECT – “COMPLIANCE PLAN”:**

The compliance management plan project will be a Team process. More Information will be provided to you about the organization of Teams by Dr. Van. At deadline about the project will be given at later in a separate Excel Calendar table. Therefore, you will need to prepare on schedule and “Environmental Compliance Plan”.

Dr. Van will divide the class into **Teams** to work on the environmental compliance plan. The teams will be organized in alphabetical order from the Goldmine class list and the Team Leader will be selected at random.

The **Team Lead TL** will manage the team and will assign the task(s) that each team member needs to work on. The **TL** will report to Dr. Van and will provide a weekly written bulleted progress summary in Word document. The performance of each team member will be given points. Any member that does not deliver their task(s) will be deducted points from their report grade. For example, if all members of the Team collaborate well and the Compliance Plan is correct with high quality each team member will get 40 points toward their final grade. If some member does not deliver their task(s) then that member will be deducted points. The **TL** and Dr. Van will reach consensus as to how many points the non-collaborative member earned for insufficient work.

**Teamwork** - No team member can work on their own on the project because the project requires group collaboration and discussion about what your Compliance Plan. This activity resembles real life engineering work



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environment. Preparing a Compliance Plan is a serious undertaking because this plan will be the guide for your company to follow and if it is not correct the company may be liable as stipulated by environmental regulatory agencies. The reason is that the project needs to be done with team collaboration. The team member that does not work with her/his team will be given a zero for the project. Therefore, it is important that the **TL** reports to Dr. Van the member that is not working well for the team. The objective is for the **TL** to speak with the team member and resolve the issue(s) to have that member return to collaborating with the team. If the **TL**

**PROJECT SUBMITTAL:**

The Compliance Plan will be submitted to Dr. Van on Friday, March 20 via email.

**EXAMS AND FINAL EXAM:**

Students will be given 2 Exams and 1 Final Exam. The exams will be multiple choice and will be set up to be taken via Blackboard. You are required to take the exams and final on time. If you have issues and cannot take the exams when indicated, you need to speak with your TA to have the approval

to give you the extension. The TA will consult Dr. Van when necessary to clarify the reasons for giving extension to take an exam. Your reason for requesting an extension should be properly justified.

**CLASS PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITIES:**

You are expected to participate in class discussions about the diverse topics Dr. Van and the TA will be lecturing and discussing case histories.

**COURSE SURVEY:**

There will be an end-of-semester survey. Your participation is important, and you will be given 5% toward your final grade. Dr. Van receives the names of the students that complete the course survey. If your name is not on that list, you will not be given the 5% points toward your final grade.

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**GRADING SCALE:**

100%-90%.....	A
89% -80%.....	B
79% -70%.....	C
69% -60%.....	D
59% - 0%.....	F

**ATTENDANCE:**

You are required to come to class and be on time. Attendance is especially important since during class you will be given the tools needed to successfully complete this course. You must contact your TA if you are going to miss class and give the reason you will not attend class. If you know you will be absent notify the TA by either phone or email. It is your responsibility to get all the lecture notes, assignments, and hand-outs you missed from your peers. An excused absence will only be given as described in the undergraduate catalog.

**Please keep in mind that you will be dropped after 6 unexcused absences.**

However, if you wish to be dropped at any time, you must contact your Dr. Van and TA.

**MENTORING:**

If you wish to have mentoring on a “**One-on-One**” session, please make an appointment with Dr. Van. The mentoring session is optional to provide you guidance in looking for a job, internship, and other career needs or questions you may have in mind.

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**MISSING ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMS:**

You will be allowed one make-up homework assignment during the course of the semester provided you show proper reason(s). If you need to make up an exam you need to show your Hector Chacon proper proof that you need to make up the exam. The TA can also decide to discuss your case with Dr. Van.

**ACADEMIC CONDUCT:**

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You must submit your work only. If you are found to be cheating or plagiarizing, you will be subject to disciplinary action, per UTEP catalog policy (<http://www.utep.edu/dos/acadint.htm>).

**CELL PHONE:**

All cell phones must be turned off or on vibrate before the beginning of the class. If a student starts using his/her cell phone during class, he/she will have to leave the classroom and may only return with the instructor's permission.

**HARASSMENT:**

Please be aware that harassment is unacceptable in the classroom. No jokes, comments of sexual nature as well as racism will be tolerated. The student that harasses will be sent to the Dean of students for disciplinary action.

**SCHOLASTIC DISHONESTY**

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

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**STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY**

Students with Disabilities Policy: If you have or suspect a disability and need an accommodation, you should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at (915) 747-5148 or at [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) or go to Room 106 Union East Building.

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR SPRING 2024 DATES:**

<b>Oct 23rd</b>	Spring Registration Begins
<b>Jan 4th</b>	Last Day to Clear Students on Suspension/Probation as well as those with Insufficient Prerequisites
<b>Jan 5th</b>	Drops for Students with Unsatisfactory Academic Standing, Insufficient Prerequisites, and Prior Grades of C in the Course
<b>Jan 8th</b>	Financial Aid is Disbursed
<b>Jan 15th</b>	<b>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – University Closed</b>
<b>Jan 16th</b>	Spring classes begin
<b>Jan 16th-19th</b>	Late Registration (Fees are incurred)
<b>Jan 31st</b>	Spring Census Day Note: This is the last day to register for classes. Payments are due by 5:00 pm.
<b>Feb 12th</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> Class Day Note: Students who were given a payment deadline extension will be dropped at 5:00 pm if payment arrangements have not been made.
<b>Feb 16th</b>	Graduation application deadline for degree conferral
<b>Mar 11th-15th</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
<b>Mar 20th</b>	Freshman midterm grades are due
<b>Mar 28th</b>	Spring Drop/Withdrawal Deadline Note: Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either W or F.
<b>Mar 29th</b>	<b>Cesar Chavez Holiday - No classes; Spring Study Day</b>
<b>Apr 12th</b>	Deadline to submit candidates' names for commencement program
<b>May 2nd</b>	<b>Spring – Last day of classes</b>
<b>May 3rd</b>	Dead day
<b>May 6-10th</b>	Spring Final Exams
<b>May 11-12th</b>	Spring Commencement
<b>May 15th</b>	<b>Grades are Due</b>
<b>May 16th</b>	Grades are posted to student records; students are notified of grades and academic standing
<b>Payment Deadlines</b>	For more information on payment deadlines, visit the <a href="#">Student Business Services Website</a>