

The Utah State University NEPA Certificate Program Courses

The Department of Environment and Society (ENVS) at Utah State University and Shipley Group, Inc. have formed a partnership to provide a 12- credit graduate level certificate program that offers training related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). All courses are offered in the short-course format of either 2 or 3 consecutive eight-hour days (depending on the course). Each course is worth 1 or 2 academic credits. For a current schedule of courses please see the following website: <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/htm/students/grad-degrees/nepa-costs>

For more information on these courses and the NEPA Certificate Program please contact Judy Kurtzman at judy.kurtzman@usu.edu

NR 6200 How to Manage the NEPA Process and Write Effective NEPA Documents
2 credits

Participants in this 3-day course learn how to fulfill the spirit and letter of NEPA and CEQ. They also explore how good decision-making, analysis, and documentation all must integrate to prepare a legally compliant EIS, EA, FONSI, ROD, or CE/CATEX.

NR 6210 Clear Writing for NEPA Specialists **2 credits**

Participants in this 3-day course learn how to plan/scope the writing process for NEPA documents including how to present technical information and graphics. They also learn review skills to ensure document effectiveness, clarity, and accuracy.

NR 6220 Reviewing NEPA Documents **2 credits**

Participants in this 3-day course learn how to systematically review the full range of NEPA documents: EISs, RODs, EAs, FONSI, and CE/CATEXs. They also learn to present clear review findings for NEPA documents, which analyze a range of alternatives and disclose all potential impacts.

NR 6230 Environmental Risk Communication **2 credits**

Participants in this 3-day course learn the meaning and application of risk communication and explore the full range of response communication, from developing a communication plan and strategy to standing before an audience in high risk, low trust situations to responding in writing to public concern.

NR 6260 Cultural and Natural Resource Management **2 credit**

The purpose of this course is to help students learn how to manage cultural and natural resources on public lands. It addresses the pertinent laws and associated executive orders and regulations pertaining to the preservation of these resources. In addition, it will look at how to integrate cultural and natural resources funding requirements into an environmental budget.

NR 6270 Environmental Compliance Overview **1 credit**

This course is designed to help participants understand why environmental compliance is not only desirable and necessary, but also a personal responsibility. It will identify key laws and regulations, with associated penalties that affect environmental compliance. The course also looks at the anticipated future of environmental programs.

NR 6280 Interdisciplinary Team Building **1 credit**

Participants in this 2-day workshop learn how to effectively and efficiently establish and manage interdisciplinary teams. From defining the project and decision maker to determining roles and responsibilities of the IDT leader and team to completing the analysis, participants who complete

this workshop will be much more prepared to manage the process. The workshop also emphasizes the importance of efficient document management and record keeping.

NR 6300 Effective Environmental Contracting

1 credit

Participants will develop an understanding of tools and techniques for efficient and effective management of contracts and contractors. Those working with environmental contractors (competitive sourcing) will be able to prepare a better statement of work (SOW), establish, manage, and maintain timelines and budgets and successfully complete projects.

NR 6320 Cumulative Impacts Analysis and Documentation

1 credit

This course has three main objectives: 1) to assist participants in developing a scoping and public involvement strategy that leads to a sound cumulative impact analysis; 2) to assess various impact methodologies as to their strengths and weaknesses in supporting the disclosure of impacts, especially cumulative impacts; and, 3) to teach participants how to record cumulative impact information in ways that supports clear, legally sufficient EAs and EISs.

NR 6330 Environmental Conflict Management for NEPA

1 credit

This course is designed to train participants in environmental conflict negotiation and management. An introduction to the nature of public conflict and management styles will be taught. Specific issues relating to environmental negotiation will be discussed and appropriate approaches and techniques will be taught through hands-on training, role-plays and activities.

NR 6340 Content Analysis and Public Response Management

1 credit

NEPA regulations require public participation on environmental documents. Participants in this course will learn how to establish a comprehensive database of respondents and a systematic approach to receiving and sending comments. The course will also demonstrate a coding structure that will track demographic and subject categories.

NR 6350 Socio-economic Impact Analysis for NEPA Specialists

1 credit

The student will be able to conduct a social impact analysis (SIA) as an integral part of the NEPA process by using social science methods and tools to record, organize, and analyze data.

NR 6360 Overview of the Endangered Species Act

1 credit

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the Endangered Species Act and its requirements and regulations, as well as the implications if ESA is violated. Learn what triggers the ESA and the Section 7 Consulting process, and explore the issuance of incidental take permits and requirements for habitat conservation plans.

NEPA 6290 NEPA Process Management

1-credit

This course focuses on teaching students to be effective team leaders by understanding how to control the process of project and plan development. Participants will be introduced to various models on time management, project management, team management, and decision-making methods. They will also learn how to frame problems in such a way that they can more clearly identify alternative solutions, and develop cause-and-effect models showing how their actions impact resources.