**LAW 3212 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY**

**Course Objectives**

The course covers constitutional, regime, statutory provisions, policy and administrative process concerned with the protection of environment. It sets out the rights and obligations of all parties concerned with the regulation of the environment.

**Course Content**

The environment, the role of humankind and sustainable development, the role of law in environmental management, the common law and the environment, statutory law especially the National Environment Statute, Town and Country Planning Act, comparative aspects with other jurisdictions (e.g. the USA, UK and Malaysia). Law relating to natural resources, minerals, forests, water, rangelands, wildlife, environmental law, the law relating to weather, pollution control. The law of the air, the law of the sea, freshwater resources, biological diversity. Rights to a decent environment, redress of environmental wrongs.

**Course Objectives**

Students in this course are expected to develop enhanced skills and knowledge in five major areas:

1. To enable students should gain a comprehensive understanding of the structure of environmental law.
2. Statutory analysis: enhance their skills at statutory interpretation and analysis of environmental legislation.
3. Administrative process: to gain a basic understanding of the environmental management structures, the roles of different institutions and the administrative processes and procedures by which these agencies and institutions discharge their responsibilities.
4. This course will explore how constitutional principles affect environmental management.
5. Policy Analysis: To enable students to develop and enhance ability to identify policy options and to critique policy choices.

**Learning Outcomes**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

Understand the role of law in the protection of the environment and identify the main actors involved in the development of environmental law;

Comprehend the different mechanisms established to ensure compliance with environmental laws and identify means of their enforcement;

Identify the major principles of environmental law, recognizing the legal and practical issues surrounding their definition;

Understand environmental law acknowledging the rights and obligations created under it;

Identify how major principles and concepts are contained in environmental legislation.

**Methods of Instruction**

1. At the commencement of the course, students are availed with reading lists, which indicate the topics to be covered, and the respective reading materials for the respective topics. It is expected that the student uses this list in preparation for each lecture.
2. The students are introduced to each topic and guided on the principles therein. Thereafter, students will be given problems for discussion in class. Students are further encouraged to also formulate their problems for discussion during the lectures.

**Assessment**

1. A coursework will be administered during the coursework week to be marked out of 30 marks.
2. An examination will be given at the end of the semester to be marked out of 70 marks.