11:374:428 Marine Fisheries Policy: A Junior/Senior Colloquium

**Place:** Blake 131, Lipman Drive, Cook College Campus

**Time:** Fridays, 10:55 a.m. – 1:55 p.m. (periods 2 and 3); plus two fieldtrips (2/24; 4/29)

Revised March 31, 2012

**Required books:**


**Assignments and Evaluation:** A series of 8-9 short papers/presentations (Adopt-a-Fish; Adopt-a-Fishery Management Plan; Adopt-a-Marine Ecosystem, Field Trip team presentations; plus a couple of individual short essays on, for example, a film shown in class, plus one or two quizzes on readings). Final examination is a “take-home” due at the time of the final examination, that is the equivalent of a 10-12 page paper on one of the “cutting edge” new directions in marine fisheries and conservation.

**Field-trips:** Two fieldtrips are scheduled: 2/24: a visit to NJ fishing communities (roughly 8:30-2:00) and 4/29, an all-day fishing trip (7-2:30 p.m.). If you have conflicts due to another class or to work, please let the instructor know ahead of time.

**Professor:** Dr. Bonnie J. McCay, Department of Human Ecology, School of Environmental and Biological Sciences, Rutgers University, George H. Cook Campus. Cook Office Building, 2nd floor; 55 Dudley Rd. mccay@aesop.rutgers.edu

**Brief Description:** A Junior/Senior Colloquium and EPIB Capstone Course that offers multidisciplinary perspectives on societal issues concerning food systems and the environment. Focuses on fisheries, fishing communities, and marine conservation, from the perspectives of biology and biological oceanography, economics, anthropology, and public policy. The overall approach is "human ecology," which refers to a holistic, interdisciplinary perspective that includes people as major actors in ecological systems, for better and for worse.

For students with little or no background in marine or fisheries science, a brief introduction to fish and other marine critters and the challenges of marine fisheries science. For those students and for others with solid backgrounds in fisheries or marine science, introduction to the “governance” systems that are now available for marine fisheries, from state to national and international, and to emerging paradigms for improved governance, namely “ecosystem-based management,” “community-based management,” “property-rights-based management,” “adaptive management,” and “marine spatial planning.”
Learning goals: Introductory understanding of and experience with interdisciplinary approaches to marine conservation and fisheries management. Familiarity with major new directions in marine resource management, including precautionary approaches to stock assessment; marine spatial planning and protected areas; rights-based management and catch shares; ecocertification; and community-based and cooperative approaches to research and management. Ability to work effectively with others in simulated exercises and team presentations.


2. Jan. 28: Simulation: Fish Banks, Ltd. © ;

“Fishing livelihoods in the balance” &/or “empty oceans, empty nets”

Book discussion, “Cod,”


   Adopt-a-Fish team presentations (10 minutes each)

   Guest: Kathrine Bianchini, “Atlantic Salmon Restoration”

   Reading (Sakai): Jackson et al Science2001.pdf; Campbell et al 2009 Beyond Baselines

   Book discussion, “Cod.”


   Video: “Taking Stock”

   Book discussion, “Cod.”


5. Feb. 17: Fisheries Management: Socio-Economic Dimensions

NOAA documents (see Sakai site, for draft “catch share policy,” and various news items)

Video: “A Fish Story”

Guest: Dr. Satsuki Takahashi. Japanese Fisheries, Modernization Policy, and Disasters.


Assign: “adopt-a-large-marine-ecosystem” team presentations, for March 9th.

6. Feb. 24: Field trip: Point Pleasant Beach and Belmar, NJ; Commercial and Recreational fisheries of New Jersey. 9-2 (bus)

Cooperatives and Marine Fisheries


Plus Handouts.

7. March 2: Lobsters and Lobster Management

Discussion of Field Trip;

“Fishing game” exercise: introduction, run-through some of it.


Book Discussion: “Lobster”

8. March 9: Ecosystem-Based Management, Scale, and Protected Areas
Outlines of Course Papers Due

Team Presentations, “ Adopt-a-marine-ecosystem”

“ Fishing Game” exercise: “ Fishing Season,” “ Protected Area”

Readings (Sakai): Pomeroy, “ Ecosystem-Based Management Factsheet”; “ Marine Protected Areas Factsheet;”

Book Discussion: “ Lobster”

9. March 23: Property-Rights-Based Management; Climate Change and Fisheries

Case Study: Atlantic Surfclams.

“ Fishing Game”: Catch Shares


Book Discussion: “ Lobster”

Assign Team presentations: “ Adopt a Fishery Management Plan”

10. March 30: “ Fisheries Governance” and Consumer-Based Management/ Ecocertification

Slides and discussion, Baja California Lobster, Newfoundland Shrimp, Maine Lobster, and the Marine Stewardship Council

Readings (Sakai): none

Book Discussion (“ whales”)

11. April 6: Fisheries Management Issues and New Directions in New England and the Mid-Atlantic

Guest: Nils Stolpe, Garden State Seafood Association; James Lovgren, Fishermen’s Dock Cooperative, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ.

Team Presentations: “ Adopt-a-Fishery-Management-Plan” (10 minutes each)

Video: “Between the Harvest”


Guest: Divya Karnad

Book Discussion (“Whales”)


Readings (Sakai): Berkes, F. et al 2006 Globalization roving bandits.doc

Book Discussion (“Whales”)

Guest: Dr. John Wiedenmann, IMCS

14. April 27: Field Trip: Sport Fishing in Raritan Bay (Mi-Jo II, Capt. Mike Scardigno, Atlantic Highlands, NJ)

7 a.m. – 2 p.m. Car-Pool.

Final examination (class presentations of final papers).