Nebraska Wesleyan University

POLSC 2730 The Politics of Public Lands

Catalog

2026-2027

Course Description

Public lands have long been at the heart of American political, environmental, and cultural debates. This course explores their historical development, contemporary challenges, and future directions. Students will examine how laws, governance structures, and competing interests influence the management of public lands. Topics include conservation, resource use, recreation, and cultural significance, with an emphasis on the relationships between federal, tribal, state, and local authorities. Through ongoing case studies, the course provides practical insights into the complex dynamics and political forces shaping public land use today.

Archway Curriculum: Integrative Core: Humans in the Natural Environment Thread

Course Hours

4 hours

Departments

1. Political Science