This course is designed to introduce graduate students to the issues facing the United States-Mexico border today. In surveying the problematique of the United States-Mexico border, this course will require that the students delve in greater depth into a single border issue: water resources. Over the semester, we will survey its history and evolution as an issue, its nature and characteristics, and the multifaceted bilateral/bi-national efforts to achieve rational water use and conservation. We will also attempt to forecast some of the future concerns on the subject. But in order to truly understand the issue in depth, students engage in a comparative study of the current water-related issues of our United States-Mexico border with those facing the Israeli-Palestinian border, where the issue is projected to be a serious problem that will have to be resolved in the future as the Palestinian state comes into existence. To accomplish this goal, the course will be divided into three parts.

The first part consists of an intensive study of the water resources issue on the United States-Mexico border over the last 156 years. While surveying the long history of water resources management on our border, students will also learn comparatively the kind of problems facing the Israeli-Palestinian border on the same issue. The reason for this comparative study is the fact that UTEP has been awarded a grant from the U.S. State Department for an exchange program linking UTEP researchers with a non-governmental organization, Friends of the Earth – Middle East. Thus, this class will contribute through its research and discussions to an active program, “Good Water Neighbors,” to find solutions to the water-related issues facing several sets of communities on opposite sides of the Israeli-Palestinian border.

On the second part, students will actively organize and participate in an online dialogue with scholars and practitioners from around the world who will share their own experiences with water resource management-related issues in their own communities.
The class is expected to run this on line dialogue by stimulating conversation, asking questions, presenting summaries of the participations received, and then sharing their own thoughts with the other students during our class discussions.

Finally, in the third part of the course, students will more broadly survey other border issues, including the environment, transportation, discrimination, law enforcement, decision-making incompatibility, identity conflicts, dual citizenship, security, illegal drugs, immigration and mobility, and economic integration, among others.

### TEXTBOOKS

There are no textbooks required for this course. Instead, there are several readings listed under each class. These readings will be placed on reserve at the library or can be found on line, in Dr. Tony Payan’s webpage ([http://faculty.utep.edu/lapayan](http://faculty.utep.edu/lapayan)) where students can download the readings onto their own computers.

To find the readings, once you are logged in to [http://faculty.utep.edu/lapayan](http://faculty.utep.edu/lapayan) please, click on **Courses**. In the drop-down menu, click on **Spring 2005**. On the drop-over menu, please, click on **Issues in Border Studies**. All the readings are listed on that page. If the reading is available on line, please click on the title. If the reading is not available on line, it will be found at the Reserve Desk at the UTEP Library.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance is mandatory. It is particularly important that no class be missed before Spring Break, given that the entire class will be preparing to receive the delegation from the Middle East and preparations will be intense. A class missed will set the student behind on the knowledge and preparations for this important visit. Attendance is worth 20% of the final grade.

2. Students will be required to give a major presentation to the delegation from the Middle East. This presentation will be offered to the Middle East delegation, authorities from The University of Texas at El Paso, and the University and El Paso communities as a whole. Your presentation and participation in this event will be worth 50% of the final grade.

3. The final exam will be take-home exam and will consist of writing an essay on one of the remaining issues on the border. This issue will be investigated by the student; a research question will be posed; and a final essay, through a power point presentation, will be presented to the class on the last day of classes. This final exam will be worth 30% of the final grade.
4. All items will be graded on a 100-scale and then multiplied by the percentage weight of each grade. The grading scale will adjust to the University’s general standard. Both a D and an F would require you to repeat the course. The grading scale is the following:

91-100 = A  
81-90 = B  
71-80 = C  
61-70 = D  
60 and below = F

5. The formula to calculate your grade—and which enables you to monitor your progress throughout the semester—is the following:

\[ \text{Final Grade} = (\text{Attendance} \times 0.20) + (\text{Online Dialogue Participation} \times 0.50) + (\text{Final Paper} \times 0.30) \]

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**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**JANUARY**

12  General Introduction and Historical Background  

   **Guest:** Mr. Ed Hamlyn

19  Historical Background  
   a. Israel/Palestine  
      http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/80859e/80859E00.htm#Contents>http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/80859e/80859E00.htm#Contents  
   b. United States/Mexico  
   1. 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo  
   2. 1853 Gadsden Purchase Treaty  
   3. 1906 Convention between the U.S. and Mexico re. Waters of the Rio Grande
5. 1944 Treaty between the U.S. and Mexico  
6. 1973 IBWC Minute No. 242 re Salinity of the Colorado River  
7. 1983 La Paz Agreement  
c. Please, read thoroughly the following website  
   http://www.ibwc.state.gov

26 Political Demography  
a. Israel/Palestine  
b. United States/Mexico  
   a. Helen Ingram, *Divided Waters*  
   b. *The Water as a Parable*  
   c. *Binational Water Management Planning*

FEBRUARY

2 Physical Environment  
a. Israel/Palestine  
b. United States/Mexico  
   i. Hardin Garrett, “The Tragedy of the Commons.” (On line)  
   ii. Ed Hamlyn, Oscar Ibañez and Carlos Rincón, “Transboundary Water Planning in the Region Paso del Norte.” (On line)  
   iii. Please read  
c. Please, study the maps found in the following page:  
   http://www-rohan.sdsu.edu/~irsc/atlas/maps/

9 Current Politics  
a. Israel/Palestine  
   i. United Nations Security Council Resolution 242  
   ii. The Mitchell Report 2001  
   iii. Road Map to Peace 2003  
   iv. Geneva Accords 2003  
   vi. *Partners for Peace-Terminology*  
b. United States/Mexico  

Guest: Luis Cervera
16 Specific Communities
a. Theorizing Crossborder Cooperation
b. Israel/Palestine
i. Baqa el-Gharbiyya/Baqa el Sharkiyya
ii. Tulkum/Emek Hefer
   a. West Bank Water Resources
   b. Water Disputes in the Jordan Basin Region and Its Role in the Arab-Israeli Conflict
c. United States/Mexico
i. Tijuana/San Diego
   a. Tijuana San Diego Sewage Infrastructure
   b. San Diego Water Pollution
   c. International Waste Water Treatment Plant
ii. Ciudad Juárez/El Paso
c. Readings on Reserve

Guest: Carlos Rincón (Environmental Defense)

23 Group Decision Making Theory
a. Irving Janis, Victims of Groupthink (Excerpts) (1972)

MARCH

2 Functional Theory/Neofunctionalism
   Institutions
   b. Beth A. Simmons, “Trade and Territorial Conflict: International Borders as Institutions”
   c. Peter Haas, Neofunctionalism
   d. Peter Haas, Do Regimes Matter? Epistemic Communities and Mediterranean Pollution Control (9189)
   e. Peter Haas, Introduction: Epistemic Communities and International Policy Coordination (1992)
   f. Functionalism and the Widening v Deepening Dilemma
   g. Integration Theory

9 Water Legal Issues
   b. Robert Axel, The Evolution of Cooperation
a. Guest: Ana Rosa Moreno (FUMEC)

16 Spring Break
23
30

APRIL

6
13
20

27 Power Point Presentations
Concluding remarks
Bibliography: Water and Environment in the Middle East


Assaf, Karen (et al), *A proposal for the development of a regional water master plan*, Jerusalem, Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information, 1993.


