

Introduction to Environmental Science Syllabus

EVR1001, summer 2021, May17 - June 18

Course & Instructor Information

Instructor: TBA

Email: TBA

Office Hours: By Appointment

Contact Hours: 45

Credits: 3

Course Description

This is a 3 credit hour general education course with no prerequisites. Students will study the impact of human systems on the physical and biological environment as well as discuss possible solutions to today's environmental problems. Topics include ecology, natural resources, energy, pollution, population growth, urbanization, climate change, conservation, and sustainability.

This course is presented via the Moodle Learning Management System. Video Lectures, Reading Materials, and Assignments will be given in the Moodle course and all assignments will be done or turned in via the Moodle course as well.

Prerequisites

No corequisites or prerequisites.

Textbook Information

Essential Environment the Science Behind the Stories, Jay Withgott
Matthew Laposata English; ISBN-10: 0321984579; ISBN-13: 978-
0321984579



Measurable Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Describe the nature of the biosphere and links between the living and non-living world
- Comprehend the impact of humans and other organisms on the environment
- Understand regional and worldwide population trends
- Recognize the problems associated with solid waste and air and water pollution.
- Differentiate among the various sources of energy in terms of their advantages and disadvantages.
- Understand the methods of investigation and interpretation of climate change
- Understand the concept and importance of sustainability.

Collegewide Student Learning Outcomes

The Collegewide Student Learning Outcomes assessed and reinforced in this course include the following:

- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Global Sociocultural Responsibility

Attendance/Makeup Policy

The College recognizes the correlation between attendance and both student retention and achievement. Per College Policy 3.060 **Students are expected to participate and keep track of assignments and their due dates of all courses for which they are registered.**

You will be allowed to make up work for full credit only under extreme circumstances (such as a documented, serious health-related emergency).

Cheating will not be tolerated. This includes giving or receiving aid on a quiz or exam and plagiarizing the work of others (including your classmates). There will likely be homework or in-class work that will allow for collaboration, but all work you turn in must be in your own words.

Late work will be accepted for 2 days after the due date with a 15% penalty for each day after the due date. Late work is not accepted after the 2 days

Grading Policy

Your final grade in this course is based upon performance on lecture examinations (75% in total, 15% each) and in weekly work (homework, discussions, 25%). The weekly work will help prepare you for the exams but also provide interactions with the professor, TA, and other students.

Reading Text and viewing recorded lectures.

Students are expected to read their text and view videos lectures prepared by the professor (Note: some of the video lectures have additional information that is not in your text and you will be responsible for this information on your exams). Which chapters to read and video lectures to watch are listed in the weekly schedule.

Homework

Homework assignments will be given to enhance understanding of lecture material and consist of either reporting on a current article or answering questions from your text. Your written reports and responses will be posted on Moodle in the appropriate forum board for the corresponding week. Homework assignments are due on Wednesdays each week.

Discussions

Each week you will also have discussion posts to make. These will include questions to answer usually taken from Weighing the Issues questions in each chapter. The specific questions are described on the forum board itself. Discussion posts include your first post and responses to other students. The first post due on Wednesday is your answer to the questions and then your response posts are due on Friday

Exams

Exams will consist of multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching and labeling questions, and short answer. Exams primarily concern material covered since the most recent exam; however, they may include some cumulative material from earlier in the term. Exams may include material from recorded lectures as well. Exams are open book, but timed- you will not have time to look up every answer. Typically, you will have 50 questions to answer. Time to take the exam will start at 90 minutes, but this may change depending on student performance on exams. Exams are due every Friday

Grading Scale

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = Below 60%

“**A**” grades are given for outstanding work. You are doing extremely well. The student has exceeded expectation.

“**B**” grades are given for above average work. You are doing very well. Improvements will be toward higher refinements of concept.

“**C**” grades are given for average work. You are meeting an acceptable level or expectation. Improvements will be towards acceptable levels of project requirements.

“**D**” grades are given for below average work. You are under-achieving in quality and/or motivation. Improvements will be towards acceptable level of project requirements.

“**F**” grades are given for failure. You are not reaching the expected level for college work. Improvements are to review goals, seek assistance and increase efforts.

Course Outline

Please note that the schedule is meant to give an overview of the major concepts of this course. Changes may occur in this schedule as needed to aid in the student’s development.

Week 1

- Chapter 1: Science and Sustainability: An Introduction to Environmental Science
- Chapter 2: Environmental Systems: Matter, Energy, and Ecosystems
- Chapter 3: Evolution, Biodiversity, and Population Ecology
- Homework 1
- Discussion 1
- Exam 1

Week 2

- Chapter 4: Species Interactions and Community Ecology

- Chapter 6: Human Population
- Chapter 8: Biodiversity and Conservation Biology
- Homework 2
- Discussion 2
- Exam 2

Week 3

- Chapter 11: Geology, Minerals, and Mining
- Chapter 12: Fresh Water, Oceans, and Coasts
- Homework 3
- Discussion 3
- Exam 3

Week 4

- Chapter 13: Atmospheric Science, Air Quality, and Pollution Control
- Chapter 14: Global Climate Change | PREVIEW AS PDF (PDF | 8.71 MB)
- Homework 4
- Discussion 4
- Exam 4

Week 5

- Chapter 15: Nonrenewable Energy Sources, Their Impacts, and Energy Conservation
- Chapter 16: Renewable Energy Alternatives
- Homework 5
- Discussion 5
- Exam 5

Academic Integrity

As members of the Seminole State College of Florida community, students are expected to be honest in all of their academic coursework and activities.

Academic dishonesty, such as cheating of any kind on examinations, course assignments

or projects, plagiarism, misrepresentation and the unauthorized possession of examinations or other course-related materials, is prohibited.

Plagiarism is unacceptable to the college community. Academic work that is submitted by students is assumed to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording or organization from another source, they are expected to acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. Plagiarism is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass-off such work as the student's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized.

Students who share their work for the purpose of cheating on class assignments or tests are subject to the same penalties as the student who commits the act of cheating.

When cheating or plagiarism has occurred, instructors may take academic action that ranges from denial of credit for the assignment or a grade of "F" on a specific assignment, examination or project, to the assignment of a grade of "F" for the course. Students may also be subject to further sanctions imposed by the judicial officer, such as disciplinary probation, suspension or dismissal from the College.