

THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE SEMINAR – SP January 29<sup>th</sup> – May 14<sup>th</sup> 2014  
Wednesday: Students - 5:30-8:15 PM; Speakers 6 -7:45 PM, Room C101  
*GUEST SPEAKERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES SEMINAR*

Text: None

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This seminar consists of assigned readings and guest lecturers on various environmental topics that are important to the development of all students who want to learn, to understand and to write effectively about the environment. Some common seminar topics may include federal and state regulations, solid and municipal waste management, best management practices (BMPs), environmental restoration and remediation, alternative and renewable energy, sustainable landscape management, sustainable agriculture, stewardship, land use, water quality, stormwater management and global and local environmental quality trends. Students are required to discuss, think about and write about the topics, carrying out their own library research to support positions that they will develop.

- WEEKLY PAPERS WILL BE BASED ON GUEST SPEAKER'S LECTURE AND PLACED IN YOUR *REQUIRED* PORTFOLIO (see below) TAKE NOTES!
- YOU MAY ALSO SUPPORT YOUR PAPER WITH INFORMATION YOU FIND ON-LINE, BOOKS OR FROM OTHER *RELIABLE* SOURCES.
- REGULAR ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION IS EXPECTED AND NECESSARY FOR A PASSING GRADE.
- 1<sup>st</sup> class Prof. Diba Khan-Bureau describes the class and expectations. Prof. Jon Brammer will inform the students of the tools and programs available to assist students to write well.

1. Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> – **Dr. Gerry Berkowitz**, Professor Plant Sciences, UConn - Public perception, human health risks and environmental impact of genetically engineered crop plants: what are the issues and facts?
2. Feb. 5<sup>h</sup> – **Ralph Lewis**, Professor of Geology, UConn - The Geological Landscape of Connecticut
3. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> – **Dr. John Lane**, United States Geological Survey - Water Resources in the Developing World.
4. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> – **Greg Bugbee and Jordan Gibbons**, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station - Invasive Aquatic Plants found in CT Lakes
5. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> – **Judy Preston**, CT Sea Grant/Long Island Sound Study – Lawns and Water Quality; a Growing Problem
6. Mar. 5<sup>th</sup> – **Dr. Hedley Freake**, Professor Nutritional Sciences UConn - Food, Health and the Environment

7. March 12<sup>th</sup> – **John Turenne** – Sustainable Food Systems; Sustaining Ourselves and the Environment-1 Step at a Time

**March 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>th</sup> SPRING BREAK – NO CLASSES**

8. March 26<sup>th</sup> – **Brian Murphy**, CT. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection - Stream Restoration Efforts in Eastern Connecticut

9. April 2<sup>nd</sup> – **Anthony Irving**, Chair of the Eightmile Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee and Past President of the Lyme Land Trust - Lessons from the Eightmile Wild and Scenic River Designation

10. April 9<sup>th</sup> – **Dr. Michael Dietz** – UConn Extension office Program Director NEMO – The Jordan Cove Project: Stormwater and Low Impact Design

11. April 16<sup>th</sup> – **Bob Crelin**, Author, Dark Skies Activist, and Amateur Astronomer will present on Dark Skies and will take us all outside to perform light monitoring of the night sky. He will also have a book signing for his book “There Once Was a Sky Full of Stars”.

12. April 23<sup>th</sup> – **Hank Gruner**, Herpetologist and Vice President of Programs, the Connecticut Science Center will present on the timber rattlesnake in New England and using novel datasets to look at the historical distribution of species.

13. April 30<sup>th</sup> – **Michael Beauchene**, CT. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – Rapid Bioassessment, Benthic Macro Invertebrates Survey and Management

14. May 7<sup>th</sup> – **Dr. Charles Yarrish** from UConn Stamford. – Sustainable aquaculture by integrating seaweeds in polyculture systems for bioremediation and diversification in Long Island Sound.

15. May 14<sup>th</sup> – **David Stokes**, CT. Dept of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Management – Hazardous Waste Management and Enforcement

**May 14<sup>th</sup>** - Close out the semester with discussions on papers and presentations. Bring last of the essays and **portfolios** into class.

Please turn off all cell phones! Get to class early enough as not to disturb our guest speaker – thank you in advance!!

As a student you will maintain an online learning portfolio using a college-designed template in Digication. Through this electronic tool you will have the opportunity to monitor your own growth in college-wide learning. It may even help you determine a major that is best suited to you. You will be able to keep and maintain your learning portfolio after graduation. A Three Rivers General Education Assessment Team will select and review random works to improve the college experience for all. If your work is selected and reviewed for assessment purposes, it will remain anonymous and private. Digication provides a “place” where you will connect your learning from the classroom, college, and life in general. Sometimes when you review all of the work you have done and think about it, you end up learning something different and perhaps unexpected. Please review your course outlines to determine what assignments to upload into the TRCC Digication template and please post your own choices, as well.

**Withdrawal:**

[http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div\\_academics/Admin/calendar.shtml](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Div_academics/Admin/calendar.shtml)

**Incomplete:** An incomplete must be finished within 60 days of the last day of the semester.

**Disabilities:** If you have a disability that may affect your class performance please come see me as soon as possible.

**Links to Policies Covering Three Rivers Community College- Student handbook:**

Please ensure that you are familiar with and follow the student's handbook regarding attendance, plagiarism, student behavior and the like. This information can be found at:

[http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Gen\\_Info/PolicyLinks.htm](http://www.trcc.commnet.edu/Gen_Info/PolicyLinks.htm)