

Principles of Environmental Science/Environmental Studies

BIO K180/ENV K101; Fall 2013; Monday 6:30-9:15 PM; Room D221

Instructor:

Elizabeth K. Timpe

Office Hours: upon appointment

Email*: etimpe@gmail.com, etimpe@trcc.commnet.edu,

*Email is the best way to get in touch with me.

Text*:

Environmental Science: Toward a Sustainable Future, 12th ed.

Richard T. Wright, Dorothy E. Boorse

(ISBN 0321811534)

*The purpose of the assigned textbook reading is to give you another version of the material. You are not expected to know everything in the chapters assigned; however, you should go over your lecture notes outside of class, and use the textbook to fill in places where your notes are lacking.

Course Description

This is a basic course in environmental studies that introduces ecological principles and a global perspective on environmental problems such as deforestation, global climate change, droughts, floods, soil erosion, loss of biodiversity, and pollutants. It describes, in detail, the study of the biological and physical aspects of the environment and related issues, highlighting sound science, sustainability, and stewardship. Additionally, this course emphasizes a global and cross-cultural perspective on issues pertaining to environmental science, including discussions on human population expansion, environmental racism, socioeconomic stratification, global stewardship, social modernization, and establishing a framework for achieving a sustainable future.

Class Schedule

| Day | Date | Chapter | Lecture Topic | Assignments |
|------------|---------------|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Aug 26 | 1, 2 | Introduction to course; Framework for a Sustainable Future; Economics, Politics and Public Policy | |
| | <i>Sept 2</i> | | <i>Labor Day – No Class</i> | |
| 2 | Sept 9 | 3, 4 | Basic Needs of Living Things; Populations and Communities | |
| 3 | Sept 16 | 5, 7 | Ecosystems: Energy, Patterns, and Disturbance; The Use and Restoration of Ecosystems | |
| 4 | Sept 23 | 6 | Wild Species and Biodiversity | Biodiversity Loss News (Due Sept 30) |
| 5 | Sept 30 | 8, 9 | The Human Population; Population and Development | |
| 6 | Oct 7 | 10 | Water: Hydrologic Cycle and Human Use | Movie: BLUE GOLD |

| Day | Date | Chapter | Lecture Topic | Assignments |
|-----|---------------|---------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 7 | Oct 14 | 11 | Soil: The Foundations for Land Ecosystems; Review | Movie: DIRT! |
| 8 | Oct 21 | | Midterm | Movie: KING CORN |
| 9 | Oct 28 | 12, 13 | The Production and Distribution of Food; Pests and Pest Control | Movie: FOOD, INC. |
| 10 | Nov 4 | 14, 15 | Energy from Fossil Fuels; Nuclear Power | Movie: GASLAND |
| | Nov 11 | | Veteran's Day – No Class | |
| 11 | Nov 18 | 16, 17 | Renewable Energy; Environmental Hazards and Human Health | |
| 12 | Nov 25 | 18, 19 | Global Climate Change; Atmospheric Pollution | Climate Change News (Due Dec 2) |
| 13 | Dec 2 | 20, 21 | Water Pollution and Its Prevention; Municipal Solid Waste: Disposal and Recovery | Trash Log and Report (Due Dec 9) |
| 14 | Dec 9 | 22, 23 | Hazardous Chemicals: Pollution and Prevention; Stewardship for a Sustainable Future; Review | |
| 15 | Dec 16 | | Final | |

*Information on assignments (e.g., current topics and movie reaction papers, trash log) will be provided to you closer to the due date.

Grading

| | Percentage |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Midterm (Chapters 1–11) | 30% |
| 2-page News Reaction Papers (x2) | 5% each, 10% total |
| 2-page FILM Reaction Papers (x2) | 5% each, 10% total |
| Trash Log | 10% |
| Final (Chapters 12–23) | 30% |
| Attendance and Class Participation | 10% |

Classroom Policies

Attendance

In order to keep up with the fast pace of the course, as well as get the full amount for your participation grade, attendance is expected of each student. Of course if you fall ill or have an emergency, please notify me via email **BEFORE** the missed class period and I will make sure to pass along all necessary information. There will be no makeups allowed for missed exams.

Cell Phones

As a member of the learning community, each student has a responsibility to other students and the instructor who are members of the community. When cell phones ring and students respond in class or leave class to respond, it disrupts the class. Therefore the use of cell phones (including texting) in non-emergency situations is prohibited during class. Cell phones must be turned off or put in a silent (vibrate) mode and ordinarily should not be taken out during class.

Academic Conduct

Academic misconduct in any form is in violation of the Student Code and will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, copying or sharing answers on exams, plagiarism, and having someone else do your academic work. Depending on the act, a student could receive a failing grade on a particular assignment/test, a failing grade for the course, or be suspended or expelled.

For your knowledge, cheating and plagiarism are defined below:

Cheating is defined as the giving of assistance to another or the receiving of assistance from another person, another examination paper, other written material, or any source not explicitly permitted by the instructor, is cheating. Thus, you may not look at another's paper or answers; you may not show your paper or answers to another or leave your paper or answers around for others to look at; and, you may not verbally read or reveal your answers to another. It is also cheating to have access, without the instructor's approval, to examination, quiz, or test questions prior to the administration of the examination, quiz, or test. Plagiarism is the submission or presentation of ideas or work in any form that are not one's own without appropriate acknowledgement of the source(s). Even with the acknowledgement, close paraphrasing can constitute plagiarism. You may quote the work of others if properly referenced.

Students with Learning Disabilities

If you need special accommodations for testing (e.g., extra time), please let me know as soon as possible.

Please go on the college website at <http://www.trcc.comnet.edu/SecTier/stuserv.html> to view all student resources and related information, as well as the student handbook.