

1-2013

## ENSC 105.01: Environmental Science Online

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ENSC 105 ~ ONLINE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Dr. Vicki Watson & Matt Erickson, MS

Spring 2013

Class Goals:

- Provide students with opportunities to make a difference
- Help students build:
  - Scientific literacy
  - Skills in critical thinking, research & self-instruction
  - Understanding of the scientific basis of environmental issues, policies, laws
  - Habit of informed, active participation in social decisions
  - Habit of service to their community and the earth

| <u>Week</u>  | <u>Lecture Topic</u>  | <u>Readings*</u>  |
|--|---|---|
| 1 (1/28)   | Course goals & mechanics:   | <i>Course polices, assignments, etc.</i><br>M – Humans and Sustainability<br><a href="http://www.earthcharter.org">www.earthcharter.org</a>     |
| 2 (2/4)  | Literacy ~ Scientific & Ecological  | M – Environmental Economics<br>Scientific vs Philosophical Statements   |
| 3 (2/11)   | Ecosystems - energy flow, productivity<br>Cycles, environmental fate – can't throw anything away<br><i>Ecosystem services, tragedy of the commons</i> | M – Ecosystems<br><i>Ecosystem Services Website, Daily, Hardin</i>  |
| 4 (2/18)   | Communities – connections: can't do just one thing<br>Kinds of diversity; all creatures have a role<br>Change, disturbance, condition                 | M – Community Ecology<br><a href="http://www.worldwildlife.org/wildworld">www.worldwildlife.org/wildworld</a>                                   |
| 5 (2/25)   | Populations – genetic diversity, adaptation, flexibility, growth, limits, carrying capacity   | M – Population dynamics   |
| 6 (3/4)  | <b>***EXAM 1*** Wednesday, March 6 – 7:00-9:00pm</b>  | Study Guide 1   |
| <b>Scientific Basis of Environmental Laws &amp; Policies</b> |   |   |
| 7 (3/11)   | NEPA, pop policy, kinds of env. Laws  | M- Major events in US Env. History<br><a href="http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/index.html</a> |
| 8 (3/18)   | Land Conservation Policy  | M – Biodiversity, Ecosystems Approach   |
| 9 (3/25)   | Water (Clean Water Act, etc)<br>Toxics (TSCA, FIFRA, etc)   | M – Water Resources<br>M – Hazardous Waste<br><i>O.S.F statement on toxics</i>  |
| 10 (4/1)   | Spring Break  | Enjoy your Environment!   |
| 11 (4/8)   | Air (Clean Air Act & G. Smith Guest Lecture)<br>Eco-footprint Calculator  | M – Air Pollution<br><a href="http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp">http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp</a>                      |
| 12 (4/15)  | Biodiversity (ESA, etc)<br>Food (AgroEcology)   | M – Sustaining Wildlife<br>M – Food Resources   |
| 13 (4/22)  | Climate   | M – Climate Change  |
| 14 (4/29)  | Energy and Waste  | M- Energy Resources<br><i>Ecoliteracy</i>   |
| 15 (5/6)   | <b>***EXAM 2*** Wednesday, May 8 – 7:00-9:00pm</b>  | Study Guide 2   |

\*Textbooks used in this course:

M = G. Tyler Miller's *Sustaining the Earth* (use table of contents & index to find associated readings)

Additional readings will be posted on Moodle.

## ENSC 105 – Assignments

Spring 2013

All assignments are due the week indicated below. For example, Week #1 begins on Monday, January 28th . Any assignments for the week are due by the end of the week, Friday at 5:00 pm. In this example any assignments due for Week #1 should be turned in by Friday, February 1, before 5:00pm. This pattern is true for all assignments.

Late assignments will lose 10% of the points for every week they are late, unless other arrangements have been made IN ADVANCE.

Assignment Format ~ plain Emails are fine for all correspondence, but FOR GRADED ASSIGNMENTS: I would like your assignments (such as proposals, reports, etc) attached to an email as a separate file, preferably MS Word. You should complete these assignments just as you would if you were going to hand in a paper copy. Instead of printing them out, you'll just be emailing me a copy.

Please keep a copy of all assignments turned in as a record.

### Week Assignment

1 (1/28) Send instructor an email introducing yourself and your interests. Purchase books.

2 (2/4) Learning Contract due

3 (2/11) Proposal (10 pts) due for Community Service Project.

4 (2/18) Proposal (10 pts) due for Research Paper and Letter.

5 (2/25) Revised Community Service Project Due.

6 (3/4) EXAM #1 this week. \*\*\*March 6, 7:00 – 9:00 PM\*\*\*

7 (3/11) Revised Research Paper and Letter Proposal Due.

8 (3/18) Nothing due. Check out some field trip opportunities (extra credit).

9 (3/25) Nothing due, but you need to be working on your paper.

10 (4/1) Spring Break

11(4/8) Research paper and Letter Due Friday 4/12 by 5:00 PM

12 (4/15) Nothing due.

13 (4/22) Nothing due.

14 (4/29) Community Service Project Report due Friday 5/3 by 5:00 PM(final week to submit field trip write-ups)

15 (5/6) EXAM #2 this week. \*\*\*May 8, 7:00 – 9:00 PM\*\*\*

ENSC 105 – Grading  
 Spring 2013  
 Grade based on percentage of 500 points earned

**HOW TO EARN POINTS (maximum possible points shown):**

| <u>Point Value</u>       | <u>Item</u>   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 200                      | 2 Exams (100 each)                                      |
| 25                       | Introductory Letter                                     |
| 25                       | Learning Contract                                       |
| 50 (25 x2)               | Special Topic Questions                                 |
| <b>100 Total</b>         | <b>Service Project</b>                                  |
| 10                       | - Proposal  |
| 90                       | - Report & Thank you Letter                             |
| <b>100 Total</b>         | <b>Research Project</b>                                 |
| 10                       | - Proposal  |
| 70                       | - Report  |
| 20                       | - Letter to decision maker                              |
| <b>50 (Extra Credit)</b> | <b>Field trips or Conferences &amp; Reports on same</b> |

Total Points Possible = 500 + 50 E.C.