COURSE SYLLABUS

ENVR 101-002: Introduction to the Environment

Fall 2016

1. General Information

Lectures: Tues/Thurs. 1:15 – 2:30, Booker T. Washington 201

Instructor: Dr. Duke Brantley, Office: Sumwalt 333
E-mail: brantley@esri.sc.edu, Phone: 777-9349
Office Hours: T/R 12:00 – 1:00, or by appointment.


2. iClicker Student Remote, Edition 1 or 2. Used iClickers are OK (generally available from eBay for about $10.00). If you have an iClicker for another class, you can use it for this class. You can also borrow an iClicker, and register it for your use in this class. Register your iClicker here: [http://www1.iclicker.com/register-an-iclicker/](http://www1.iclicker.com/register-an-iclicker/)

OR

iClicker GO. iClicker GO allows you to register your mobile device (phone, iPad, etc.) to use instead of an iClicker. See: [http://www1.iclicker.com/mobile-polling-iclicker-go](http://www1.iclicker.com/mobile-polling-iclicker-go)

2. Course Overview

During this course, we will discuss current and emerging environmental problems, assess potential solutions, and explore the impacts of societal and individual choices on environmental systems.

LECTURE NOTES: Lectures will be offered in Power Point, and will be posted on-line in Blackboard. Attendance to lectures is highly recommended since the lectures will be incorporated in the exams. Participation will be taken each lecture with the i-clicker and is part of the grade.
3. Learning Outcomes

Students will apply the principles and language of the natural sciences and associated technologies to historical and contemporary issues. Successful students will:

- Understand the natural functioning of the environment;
- Understand the interrelationships between human life and the environment;
- Use this knowledge to evaluate new situations and issues from a scientific perspective.

Specifically, students will

- Identify the structure and function of significant environmental systems;
- Identify the cause(s) and scope of environmental problems;
- Evaluate potential solutions;
- Weigh arguments regarding environmental issues;
- Identify environmental impacts of national policies;
- Identify environmental impacts of everyday actions and personal choices.

4. Tentative Course Outline (subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>18-Aug</td>
<td>Class Intro</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 23 &amp; 25</td>
<td>Intro to Env Science/Environmental Systems</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Aug 3 0&amp; Sept 1</td>
<td>Environmental Systems: Matter, Energy and Ecosystems</td>
<td>3 &amp; 4</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sept 6 &amp; 8</td>
<td>Population and Community Ecology/Biodiversity</td>
<td>5&amp;6</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sept 13 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Finish Chapters 1-6 (Chap. 17 Waste Mangmt)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Sept 20 &amp; 22</td>
<td>Review/EXAM</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Sept 27 &amp; 29</td>
<td>Agriculture/ Food and Conservation Biology</td>
<td>7 &amp; 8</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Oct 4 &amp; 6</td>
<td>Forest Management/ Environmental Health/Toxicology</td>
<td>9 &amp; 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Oct 11 &amp; 13**</td>
<td>Geology, Minerals and Mining/FALL BREAK!</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oct 18 &amp; 20</td>
<td>Finish Chapters 7-11 (Chap. 18 Sustainability)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Oct 25 &amp; 27</td>
<td>Review/EXAM</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Nov 1 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Water/Atmospheric Science/Air Quality/Pollution</td>
<td>12 &amp;13</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Nov 8 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Global Climate Change</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Nov 15 &amp; 17</td>
<td>Nonrenewable Energy Sources, Impacts and Conservation</td>
<td>15 &amp; 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Nov 22 &amp; 24</td>
<td>Finish Chapters 12-16/THANKSGIVING</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Nov 29 &amp; Dec 1</td>
<td>Chap. 18/Exam 3</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dec 8th 12:30</td>
<td>Final Exam (Cumulative)</td>
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5. Reading Assignments and Exams

Readings
Readings are assigned to provide an overview, supplement, and augmentation of concepts presented in lecture. You are expected to complete assigned readings BEFORE the lecture. If you do not do that, you may be confused or feel that the lecture goes too quickly.

Exam Format
- Exams in this course are based on readings, anything covered in class, and any other assigned material. Tests will include material that was presented in class that is not in the book.
- Exams will include multiple choice, true-false, and matching.

Exams
- If a date must be changed, I will give at least 1 weeks’ notice.
- Contact me immediately if any date is problematic for you for religious reasons.
- There will be no make-up exams. There will be three exams giving during the session and a final. Your lowest grade will be dropped. If you are satisfied with your grade after the three session exams you may choose not to take the exam. If you miss an exam or think you can pull your grade up by doing better on the final than on one of your three exams, you can choose to take the final exam. It can’t hurt you. If you do worse on the final than any of your previous exams then your final will be the exam that is dropped.

Final Exam
- The final exam will be cumulative and optional. ALL students that choose to take the exam are REQUIRED to take the Final at the time, date, and location set by the registrar. That is a UNIVERSITY policy. Any exception requires approval by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

6. Grading

Grade Determination and Scale
Grades are based on participation (10%) and examinations (90%). Based on this grading policy, you should be able to determine your grade in the course at any time by adding up the points you have earned, and dividing that by the number of points possible up to that point in the course. Grades will be assigned on a scale as follows:

A = 90-100% · B = 80-90% · C = 65-80% · D = 55-65% · F = <55%

A = 90-100%
B = 80-90%
B+ = 87-90%
C = 65-80%
C+ = 75-80%

D = 55-65%

F = <55

**Rounding up: >0.50 points**

**Participation**

Participation will be counted by iClicker. I will ask at least one question per class at a random time, but mostly in the beginning of class or at the end of class. So show up on time and don’t leave early!

**Examinations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exams</th>
<th>100 points x 3 exams = 300 points</th>
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| Subtotal Possible | 300 points |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Participation</th>
<th>Subtotal Possible</th>
<th>30 points = 10% of grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td></td>
<td>Subtotal Possible</td>
<td>300 points = 90% of grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL            |               | 330 points = 100% of grade |

### 7. Participation

- **You** are responsible for checking the academic calendar, course syllabus, and class schedule.
- Attendance will be recorded using your iClicker. Your participation is recorded by answering the iClicker question each class session. If you do not have your iclicker, instructions will be given the first day of class.
- Be punctual. If you must leave class early, get an outside aisle seat near an exit.
- If you are absent you are responsible for all material covered in class, including announcements. If you are absent, arrange to get notes from a classmate.
- Following the University Attendance Policy (http://bulletin.sc.edu/content.php?catoid=36&navoid=3738), if you miss 5 or more class meetings, a penalty of up to one letter grade may apply.

### 8. Academic Integrity

Students will follow the University of South Carolina Honor Code (http://www.sc.edu/policies/staf625.pdf). All suspected violations will be referred to the University Committee for Academic Responsibility. **Cheating on a test will earn an F. I HAVE A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING!**

**How to Study for this Class**

- **BEFORE class, do the assigned reading.** Don’t take detailed notes – just read. First, read the chapter objectives. Then, look at the pictures, captions, and call-out boxes. Then read the text. Just read it – don’t take detailed notes.
• **Come to class, take notes on the lecture, and participate in the clicker questions.** If you do not understand something, ask.

• **IMPORTANT information will be repeated** – you will see it in the readings, hear it in class, and practice it in clickers and quizzes.

• **Having trouble? COME TO OFFICE HOURS.** That’s what they are for.