

EVS 195 Introduction to Environmental Studies

Fall 2009: MW 12:30 - 1:45 pm in FR 1014

Instructor: Dr. Jeffery Hill

Office: FR 2067

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Office Hours: By appointment (and any other time my office door is open)

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Course Description

An interdisciplinary introduction to the scope and application of environmental studies. Emphasis will be placed on an integrated analysis of environmental principles and discussions centering on current environmental problems.

Objectives

1. To have students understand the basic terminology and concepts necessary to discuss environmental issues.
2. To have students understand the major current local, national and global environmental issues.
3. To have students understand historical events and trends that have resulted in today's environmental problems.
4. To have students understand the different cultural views of environmental issues from a global perspective.
5. To have students understand the consequence of not resolving current environmental problems.
6. To have students understand future trends related to the environment.

Required Textbook

Raven, P. H., Berg, L. R., & Hassenzahl, D. M. (2008). *Environment* (6th edition). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Publishing Company.

Other readings, as assigned, will be placed on <http://people.uncw.edu/hillj/> or <http://ncvista.blackboard.com/>

A resource that will help you in this course is the textbook web site:

<http://bcs.wiley.com/he-bcs/Books?action=index&itemId=0470119268&bcsId=4191>

Course web site

We will use Blackboard for the course syllabus, grades and supplementary readings. You can access the Blackboard site for this course at <http://ncvista.blackboard.com/>

Exams

There will be four non-cumulative exams each worth 60 points. The lowest grade of the first three exams will be dropped. Exams will be based upon class discussion, lecture material and readings from the textbook and other assigned sources. You must take all exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a grade of 0 for that exam and it will be counted toward your final grade in the course.

THE INSTRUCTOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY OR CHANGE ASSIGNMENTS DURING THE SEMESTER.

Class Attendance

Class attendance is highly recommended, but not required. Students who regularly attend class typically perform better on exams and get more out of the course. Please turn off all cell phones before entering class.

Class Participation

Class discussion adds to the interest level and learning environment of the course. All students are expected to actively participate throughout the semester. Doing your reading before class and learning about environmental issues on your own will help facilitate discussion.

University Statement on Academic Expectations

In choosing UNCW, you have become part of our community of scholars. We recognize that the UNCW learning experience is challenging and requires hard work. It also requires a commitment to make time available to do that hard work. The university expects you to make academics your highest priority by dedicating your time and energy to training your mind and acquiring knowledge. Academic success in critical thinking and problem solving prepares you for the changes and challenges you will encounter in the future. Our faculty and academic support resources are readily available as partners in this effort, but the primary responsibility for learning is yours.

Statement of Academic Integrity

All members of UNCW’s community are expected to follow the academic Honor Code. Please read the UNCW Honor Code carefully (as covered in the UNCW Student Handbook). Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in this class. Please be especially familiar with UNCW’s position on plagiarism as outlined in the UNCW Student Handbook. Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which you take someone else’s ideas and represent them as your own. Here are some examples of plagiarism:

- a. You write about someone else’s work in your paper and do not give them credit for it by referencing them.
- b. You give a presentation and use someone else’s ideas and do not state that the ideas are the other persons.
- c. You get facts from your textbook or some other reference material and do not reference that material.

Disability Accommodation

Students with diagnosed disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services (962-7555). Please give me a copy of the letter you receive from Office of Disability Services detailing class accommodations you may need. If you require accommodation for test-taking please make sure I have the referral letter no less than one week before the test.

Violence and Harassment

UNCW practices a zero tolerance policy for any kind of violent or harassing behavior. If you are experiencing an emergency of this type contact the police at 911 or UNCW CARE at 962-2273. Resources for individuals concerned with a violent or harassing situation can be located at <http://www.uncw.edu/wsrc/crisis.html>.

Course Grades

There are 180 possible points:

2 exams (of 3) at 60 points each ..	120 pts.
<u>Final exam</u>	<u>60 pts.</u>
Total.....	180 pts.

Final letter grade by total percentage:

A	93 – 100%	C	73 – 76%
A-	90 – 92%	C-	70 – 72%
B+	87 – 89%	D+	67 – 69%
B	83 – 86%	D	63 – 66%
B-	80 – 82%	D-	60 – 62%
C+	77 – 79%	F	0 – 59%

As instructor, I maintain the right to adjust grades as I best see fit in order to maintain fairness and consistency.

EVS 195 Introduction to Environmental Studies: Tentative Class Schedule

Fall 2009: MW 12:30 - 1:45 pm in FR 2052

Note that this schedule is tentative. We will deviate from it in order to accommodate your interests, current events, the natural flow of the course and other related circumstances.

<i>Topics and readings by week</i>	<i>Assignments, exams, and notes</i>
Section 1: Humans in the environment	
Week 1 – August 19	
Introduction to the course: What is Environmental Studies? • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 1	• Determine your ecological footprint: http://www.earthday.net/footprint/
Week 2 – August 24	
Environmental history • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 2	• August 28: Last day to drop without a grade or add
Section 2: The world we live in	
Week 3 – August 31	
Ecosystems • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 3, 4, 5	
Week 4 – September 7	
Ecosystems, continued • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 6	• September 7: No class, Labor Day • September 9: Exam 1 review
Week 5 – September 14	
Biological diversity • <i>Environment</i> , Ch. 17	• September 14: Exam 1
Section 3: Our crowded world	
Week 6 – September 21	
Human health and population • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 8, 9, 10	
Section 4: Our precious resources	
Week 7 – September 28	
Land resources • <i>Environment</i> , Ch. 18 Soil and minerals • <i>Environment</i> , Ch. 15, 16	
Week 8 – October 5	
Food • <i>Environment</i> , Ch. 19	• October 5: No class- Fall vacation • October 7: Exam 2 review • October 8: Last day to withdraw with a W
Week 9 – October 12	
Water • <i>Environment</i> , Ch. 14	• October 12: Exam 2
Section 5: Energy	
Week 10 – October 19	
Fossil fuels • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 11	
Week 11 – October 26	
Nuclear energy • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 12 Renewable and alternative energy • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 13	
Section 6: Environmental challenges	
Week 12 – November 2	
Human health and environmental toxicology • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 7	• November 4: Exam 3 review • November 6: Exam 3

Week 13 – November 9 Solid waste • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 24 Water pollution • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 22	
Week 14 – November 16 Air pollution • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 20 Climate change • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 21	
Week 15 – November 23 Climate change, continued • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 21	• November 25: No class- Thanksgiving vacation
Week 16 – November 30 A sustainable environment • <i>Environment</i> : Ch. 25 • <i>How to Make a Difference</i> (student web site)	• December 2: Final exam review
Final Exam: Friday, December 4 from 11:30 am - 2:30 am	