**West Virginia University at Parkersburg -**

**Caperton Center for Applied Technology**

**Uniform Course Syllabus**

**Name of Course:** Topics in Environmental Science **Course No:** ENVR310

**Semester: *Summer 2012* Room: *On-Line Class (ECampus)***

**Instructor:** Andrea Sites **Cell Phone**: 740-398-2546

**Office Hours (online):** Mon. 7:00 - 8:00 PM

**E-Mail: please email me in eCampus**

**Course Objectives – Students will:**

* Understand the need to conserve available natural resources.
* Review possible solutions to current environmental problems.
* Discuss methods of preventing pollution problems.
* Define ethics criteria in relation to environmental issues.

**Course Outline (See Schedule)**

**Special Projects or Teaching Methods**

The primary way I will communicate information for this class is on a **Monday morning** announcement. The goal of the announcement is to let you know what is assigned for the week so you know what you should be working on.

Every other week our class will participate in a discussion about a current environmental issue. You are encouraged to read and comment on one another's posts.

Also, a DVD will augment this class. A project paper related to the DVD will be assigned midway through the semester and be due at the end.

**Methods of Student Evaluation**

3 Exams 150 Points ea

1 Opinion Paper Based on DVD 100 Points ea

6 Discussion Board Posts 15 Points ea

2 Assignments 10 Points ea

**Total:** **660 Points**

**Grading scale:**

A 93%-100%

B 82%-92%

C 71%-81%

D 60%-70%

F Below 60%

***Exams*:**

**Exams** will be given to ensure that the student is progressing and comprehending the material from the text book. Students will be given one week to complete the exam and submit it electronically for grading. The question format for exams generally includes true/false, matching, fill in the blank (using your book), and multiple choice.

If a student misses an exam as a result of an EMERGENCY, he/she will be allowed to take a make-up exam. Students must take the make-up exam within a week of the original exam’s due date. Students are responsible for contacting the instructor to arrange a make-up exam. Failure to take the make-up exam will result in a grade of zero for that exam. The exams will be found under the assessment tab in eCampus the week they are assigned.

***Paper:***

**A project paper** is an integral part of this course. The information for this will be found under the assignment tab (when it is assigned). The paper is based on the following DVD:

Compare and contrast the DVD presentation:

“An Inconvenient Truth” by Al Gore with the PBS presentation “Global Warming”

This on reserve in the library and available via “Amazon.com”, NetFlix (streaming), or the public library.

The paper is to be atleast 2 pages in length (but not more than 4). Your goal is to summarize two major points of the DVD. Once your summary is complete, the end of your paper should be your opinion of the DVD and the scientific concepts it discusses. I will talk about the paper in further detail, when it is officially assigned at the midpoint of the semester.

***Discussion Board Posts:***

I will post an environmental concern or problem (I will try to choose a current topic) on the discussion board (under the discussion tab in eCampus). It may be a statement or in the form of a question. You will need to read my post and then research the topic (via the internet).

Within a week (7 day) time span you need to make **one** of your own posts on the discussion board as a response to my post. You will be graded on this. Your post should be a legitimate statement/opinion on the topic and atleast a paragraph to receive full credit. Also, please feel free to post a response to your classmates posts.

There will be 6 discussion board posts throughout the semester and I will remind you about these on weekly Announcements.

***Assignments:***

There will be 2 assignments during the semester. These will likely be questions out of the text book or something similar. The information for these will be found under the assignment tab in eCampus the week they are assigned and due.

**Attendance and Class Participation:**

This class format is an “online format” .

Students who fail to complete two exams without making them up will be considered “AT RISK” and must contact the instructor for instructions to successfully complete the class from that point on.

**Assessment of Outcomes:**

Instructor Critique

Student Evaluation Form

WorkKeys: In addition to the courses required to complete your AAS degree or certificate program, the West Virginia Council for Community and Technical College Education requires that all spring semester candidates take the WorkKeys Assessment exam in order to graduate from West Virginia University at Parkersburg.  This exam is a measure or critical job skills acquired in your program of study." At the time you apply for graduation you will be notified of the times and dates for the exam. You will need to allow approximately 3 hours to take this test. WVU Parkersburg will pay the cost of the exam. Calculators will be allowed for the mathematics portion of the exam.

**ADA / Social Justice:**

West Virginia University at Parkersburg is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Our college does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration.

If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with the Office of Disability Services (424-8378).

**Other Information:**

 Students shall respect the rights of the instructor and classmates during the class instruction at all times.

 Students are encouraged to ask questions and to participate in class discussions.

 Course schedule and topics shall be considered as tentative and a general guide. I may change them at my discretion.

**Text:**

Kaufman and Cleveland

Environmental Science 1st Ed

McGraw-Hill 2008

ISBN 9780073311869

This text book is available in the library.