Florida Gulf Coast University

EVR1001C: Introduction to Environmental Science 3 Credits

CRN: 12606 Spring 2018

Class Time: Friday 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM Class Location: Whittaker Hall 103

Instructor: Chad Evers

Telephone: 239-745-4418 (office) Email: [Cevers@fgcu.edu](mailto:Cevers@fgcu.edu)

Office: Library 464H

Office Hours: M: 10-12:45PM, R: 8:00-9:00AM, F 12:45-2:30

**Course Description:**

An introductory science course emphasizing air and water pollution, water resources, solid waste management, and energy resources. Environmental science explores the interactions between humans and Earth's environment, and the science concepts needed to understand and critically think about current environmental issues.

**Learning Outcomes:**

*By the end of this course you will be able to:*

Analyze ecosystems, how they interact, and their importance.

Assess and understand the links between the historical and contemporary impacts of humans on the environment.

Recognize the choices and trade-offs presented when addressing the challenges of the modern environment.

Evaluate technological approaches proposed for solving environmental problems.

Evaluate the different cultural approaches to problem-solving, particularly between developed and developing societies.

Compare and contrast issues and problems discussed in the course and the impact of choices made in the conduct of one’s personal life.

Develop connections between global, regional, and local issues, and make informed political decisions.

**Required Course Materials:**

Environment and You

Edition: 2nd

Author: Christensen

ISBN: 9780321957894

Copyright Year: 2016

Publisher: Pearson

**Course Schedule: (Subject to Change)**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** |
| Week 1 | 1/12/2018 | Course Introduction & Chapters 1-2 |
| Week 2 | 1/19/2018 | Chapter 3: The Physical Science of the Environment |
|  |  | Chapter 4:Organism and Population Ecology and Evolution |
| Week 3 | 1/26/2018 | Chapter 5: Human Population Growth |
|  |  | Group Meetings for State of the Nation Poster |
| **Week 4** | **2/2/2018** | **State of the Earth Poster Session** |
| Week 5 | 2/9/2018 | Chapter 6: Communities and Ecosystems |
|  |  | Chapter 7: The Geography of Life |
| Week 6 | 2/16/2018 | Chapter 8 Biodiversity Conservation |
|  |  | Chapter 13 Forest Resources |
| Week 7 | 2/23/2018 | Chapter 9: Climate Change |
| Week 8 | 3/2/2018 | Chapter 10: Air Quality |
| Week 9 | 3/9/2018 | Spring Break |
| Week 10 | 3/16/2018 | Chapter 11: Water |
|  |  | Chapter 12: Agriculture and the Future of Food |
| Week 11 | 3/23/2018 | Chapter 14: Nonrenewable Energy and Electricity |
|  |  | Chapter 15: Renewable Energy and Electricity |
| Week 12 | 3/30/2018 | Chapter 17 Waste Management |
|  |  | Chapter 16: Urban Ecosystem |
| Week 13 | 4/6/2018 | Chapter 18: The Environment and Human Health |
| ***Week 15*** | ***4/13/2018*** | ***No Class Work on Nation Report*** |
| Week 16 | 4/20/2018 | **Earth Summit** |
|  |  | Chapter 19: The Environment and You |

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

**Students must have an attendance score of 80% or higher to pass the course**. *Any student who does not have an attendance score of at least 80% will receive an F for their final grade.* There are multiple in class activities each day that cannot be made up no matter what the reason for missing class. Each missed class will result in a zero on that day’s assignments.

Students must arrive on time to class, arriving late or leaving early will result in the student being marked tardy which will lower your attendance grade. Students who arrive late or leave early will not receive full credit for the day’s activities.

Students must be mentally and physically present in the classroom. If you spend a significant portion of the class on your cell phone, sleeping, or doing work for other courses I reserve the right to mark you absent for the day.

I do realize that there are legitimate reasons for missing class. For this reason I do offer multiple extra credit assignments that can be used for making up missed assignments. The extra credit assignments, their requirements, and their due dates are all listed on the canvas page.

**Coursework and Grading:**

Your Final grade will be calculated from your scores on the following Items:

Take Home Exam #1.…………………………………………………….5%

Take Home Exam #2 …..……………………………………………….. 5%

State of the Nation Assignments…………………………………………20%

Canvas Quizzes …………………………………………….………...….10%

Take Home Laboratory Assignments ….…………………….…………..20%

Classroom/Group Activities ………………………………….………….25%

Canvas Minister/Discussion Posts……………………………..………... 15%

Late assignments will be penalized 10% per day. No work will be accepted after 24 hours past the due date. Canvas Quizzes and take home exams will lock and no longer be available beyond the due date.

Your final numerical course average will be converted into letter grades as follows:

90 - 100 = A

80 - 89 = B

70 - 79 = C

60 - 69 = D

Below 60 = F

The “incomplete” grade “I” will only be given when unusual circumstances warrant. An “incomplete” is not a substitute for a “D,” “F,” or “W.”

Take Home Exam 1: Take Home Exam 1 can be found on Canvas and will be submitted online via canvas. Take Home Exam 1 will cover information from Chapters 1-10 as well as supplemental lecture materials

Take Home Exam 2: Take Home Exam 2 can be found on Canvas and will be submitted online via canvas. Take Home Exam 2 will cover information from Chapters 11-19 as well as supplemental lecture materials.

Final State of the Nation Report: The State of the Nation Report will be a document that represents a summation of the work you did as a group representing your assigned country. The Final State of the Nation Report will consist of an individual grade and a group grade.

Canvas Quizzes: Canvas Quizzes will be given online over the course of the semester. Quizzes will be timed and due at 11:59 PM. These quizzes are not intended to be tricky or difficult, but are intended to ensure you have done the assigned reading prior to class. The due dates for all quizzes will appear on your canvas page.

Take Home Laboratory Assignments: Laboratory Assignments will be completed over the course of the semester. Full details and directions for each lab can be found on Canvas. Completed Labs are to be submitted on canvas, but you should bring a printed or digital version of your completed labs to class for classroom discussion and related classroom activities.

Classroom/Group Activities: This course will use a variety of active learning strategies. Generally each time we meet in class there will be an activity, assignment, or group presentation to be done in class. These assignments will generally be due at the end of the assigned class period. These assignments cannot be made up if you have missed class.

Canvas Discussion Posts: After each topic is covered in class you will be required to post on the canvas discussion board for the topic. Some topics will have a discussion prompt, reading, or specific question to be answered, other topics may simply ask you to discuss how the topic relates to your life, your college major, or your future career. Initial discussion posts will be at least 200 words. Include a word count at the end of your response.

Minister Reports: Minister Reports connect the content of the week to your department in your country. How does the topic relate to what is happening in your country in your area of responsibility? Your requirement is for a minimum of 200 words and FULL APA formatting of at least on reference.

You will then be required to respond to at least one other student with a thoughtful well written response on both discussion posts and minister reports. Simply saying I agree and regurgitating their initial response will not count as a sufficient answer. Response discussion posts must be at least 100 words. Include a word count at the end of your response.

Extra Credit: I do offer multiple extra credit assignments that can be used for making up missed assignments. The extra credit assignments, their requirements, and their due dates are all listed on the Canvas page. Please note that only 1 extra credit assignment can be applied to each assignment category listed above. No extra credit will be applied toward the take home exams, or State of the Nation Assignments. Extra credit is not designed to significantly improve your grade, it is intended to help students who need to miss a class for legitimate reasons.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STUDENTS:**

Computer and Internet Proficiency: Students must be able to use word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software as well as be able to send and receive email. Students must also check email and Canvas mail on a regular basis. I will often send out regular emails regarding classes.

Technology in the Classroom: Students should bring laptops, tablets, or internet capable cell phones to the classroom on a regular basis.

Behavior: Students will conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times. In public you are not only representing yourself, you are representing FGCU as well. Treat each other with professional courtesy and respect. Smoking and vaping are not allowed in class or on field trips.

Safety and Preparedness: Consider your own safety and the safety of those around you at all times in the classroom and in the field. Come prepared to classes and labs.

Other Information: If any student is having an issue with any assignment or aspect of the course, please discuss it with me as soon as possible, and I will do my best to assist. In the event you may have to miss several classes (child birth, death in the family etc.) discuss it with me beforehand and I will do my best to work with you. If you disappear for several weeks and then ask to make up missed work, I cannot help you. My contact information is listed on the syllabus; feel free to call or message me at any time. If I don’t answer, I am not ignoring you; please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

**University Policies**

**Academic Behavior Standards and Academic Dishonesty**

All students are expected to demonstrate honesty in their academic pursuits. The university policies regarding issues of honesty can be found in the FGCU Student Guidebook under the Student Code of Conduct and Policies and Procedures sections. All students are expected to study this document which outlines their responsibilities and consequences for violations of the policy. The FGCU Student Guidebook is available online at http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/judicialaffairs/new.html

**University Nondiscrimination Statement**

Florida Gulf Coast University is committed to ensuring equity and fairness for all University employees, students, visitors, vendors, contractors and other third parties. As such, the University prohibits discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, sex (including sexual harassment/assault), gender identity/expression, marital status, sexual orientation, veteran status or genetic predisposition with regard to admissions, employment, programs or other activities operated by the University. This prohibition extends to enforcement of

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Questions or complaints should be directed to the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC). The OIEC’s phone number is (239)745-4366; the OIEC email address is OIEC@fgcu.edu.

**Disability Accommodations Services**

Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the university’s guiding principles, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or you suspect that your academic performance is affected by a disability, please see me or contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in the Wellness Building. The phone number is 239-590-7956 or Video Phone (VP) 239-243-9453. In addition to classroom and campus accommodations, individuals with disabilities are encouraged to create their personal emergency evacuation plan and FGCU is committed to providing information on emergency notification procedures. You can find information on the emergency exits and Areas of Rescue Assistance for each building, as well as other emergency preparedness materials on the Environmental Health and Safety and University Police Department websites. If you will need assistance in the event of an emergency due to a disability, please contact Adaptive Services for available services and information.

**Student Observance of Religious Holidays**

All students at Florida Gulf Coast University have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices, and beliefs. Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Where practicable, major examinations, major assignments, and University ceremonies will not be scheduled on a major religious holy day. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.

**Library Resources**

Main page: http://library.fgcu.edu/

Tutorials & Handouts: http://library.fgcu.edu/RSD/Instruction/tutorials.htm

Research Guides: http://fgcu.libguides.com/

Faculty Support: http://library.fgcu.edu/faculty\_index.html

**Verification of Attendance in Canvas (VAC)**

*Note from the Provost and the Director of Student Financial Services:*

As of fall 2015, all faculty members are required to use Canvas to confirm a student's attendance for each course by the end of the first week of classes. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid. *The confirmation of attendance is required for all students, not only those receiving financial aid.*