



ENSC 105NL_01, Environmental Science Spring 2019 Course Syllabus

Instructor Information

Instructor: Anita Ho

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Office Hours: M-F 1:00 - 2:00 pm and by appointment

Course Information

Class Meeting Days and Location: MWF (lecture); Th (lab); RH 130

Class Meeting Hours: MWF 9:00 - 9:50 pm (lecture); Th 2:00 - 3:50 pm (lab)

Course Catalog Description

Provides an overview of environmental science including: science, public policy and economics, ecosystems and ecological responses, and managing biological and physical resources (water, soil, forests, rangelands, air wildlife, minerals, etc.). Upon completion of this course, a student should have a strong foundation to make sound environmental decisions. Includes lab and a service component.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- Understand the resource categories of man's environment.
- Understand the biology, chemistry and geology of the resources, and management of them.
- Understand and articulate the major local and global environmental issues of the day.
- Understand ecological, political and economic concepts and thus be able to make sound environmental decisions.
- Understand land use conflicts.
- Apply scientific concepts and methods of inquiry.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Credits

4 credits.

Required Text

Withgott and Laposata, Essential Environment: The Science Behind the Stories with MasteringEnvironmental Science, 6th ed., Prentice Hall, 2019.

Other Materials

I recommend you use a three-ring binder to keep all your class materials (handouts, notes pages, labs, etc.) for this course together and organized.

Eagle Online and Email

- A variety of useful resources are available to students in this course via [Eagle Online \(https://fvcc.desire2learn.com/\)](https://fvcc.desire2learn.com/). Copies of class presentations, web links, study guides related to class topics, exam review materials and your current grades will be found here. I strongly encourage you to refer to the course home page for ENSC 105 on Eagle Online often, as it will be updated on a near-daily basis throughout the semester.
- For this course, you are required to purchase access to MasteringEnvironmentalScience; daily reading quizzes, homework and review exercises will be found here. You should always enter MasteringEnvironmentalScience through the blue Pearson “My Labs and Mastering” link on the course home page in Eagle Online. You will need an access code to register the first time; please follow the “Accessing My Labs and Mastering at FVCC” handout.
- You are expected use your Eagle Mail (@fvcc.edu) for all FVCC-related communications. This is the email address to which I will send any class-related messages. Please be sure to check it regularly, and/or forward all the mail from this account to any other email address you may use more frequently.

Grades

All graded assignments in a number of categories are assigned point values from which a final grade is calculated, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Grade Categories and Their Weights in the Calculation of the Final Course Grade

Category	Percent of Final Grade
Homework, class participation and reflections (10-60 pts. each)	40%
Exams (70-100 pts. each)	35%
Weekly lab exercises (10-30 pts. each)	10%
Class projects and presentations (20-150 pts. each)	10%
FVCC Service Learning*	5%
	100%

* Service Learning: Completion and documentation of 15 hours of community service (or service learning) through the FVCC Service Learning Office during this semester is required in this course and counts as 5% of your final course grade. The Service Learning Office will let me know at the end of the semester if you have completed your hours of service.

Grades, as percentages, are rounded to the nearest tenth, and letter grades are assigned as shown in Table 2. (The boundaries may be lowered if the class average is lower than 75.0%.)

Table 2. Grading Scale	
Grading Scale (%)	
93.0 - 100.0	A
90.0 - 92.9	A-
87.0 - 89.9	B+
83.0 - 86.9	B
80.0 - 82.9	B-
77.0 - 79.9	C+
73.0 - 76.9	C
70.0 - 72.9	C-
67.0 - 69.9	D+
60.0 - 66.9	D
0 - 59.9	F

Grade Dissemination

You can access your grades for this course at any time on Eagle Online, although they are *unofficial* grades. I do my best to return graded assignments or exams in this course within one week after submission. Please settle questions about grading within one week of the assignment being returned.

Course Policies

- Missed work: There may be graded activities completed during class periods; this missed work *cannot* be made up unless you have already been excused for a College-sponsored activity, or have a legitimate unexpected emergency (i.e., one that can be excused by a medical professional). Similarly, no makeup exams are given except in the case of a legitimate unexpected emergency, and when you have let me know, to the best of your ability, prior to the exam or as soon as possible.
- Late work policy: *Late work is not accepted in this course*. Since legitimate emergencies do periodically arise, each student has one “No Questions Asked” coupon to use for homework assigned to be completed outside of class during this semester. Be sure to read the fine print on it!
- Incomplete grades: I do not give grades of “I” or “WI” except under extreme circumstances and/or a legitimate unexpected emergency, and only if a student’s grade in the course at the time of an unexpected emergency is at least a C or better. The last day to drop or request an audit for a full semester class is **Wednesday, April 17** and it is your responsibility to do so.
- Extra credit: Periodically, there are College and community presentations, such as the Honors Symposium lectures, relevant to our course, and I may offer extra credit opportunities for your attendance and summary of them. Keep in mind, however, these opportunities require time and effort that may be better spent on the required class activities.

Course and Student Expectations

- Participation and time expectations: This is a 4-credit course, and you should expect to spend *at least* 4 additional hours per week outside of class and lab reading and reviewing material and completing homework. We have a *lot* of material to cover, so please make time for this class, participate in class

activities and complete your work in a timely manner. Studies show that the more frequently students participate in a class, the better they perform.

- **Academic integrity:** Academic integrity and honesty includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. *Disciplinary action in this course may range from a grade of zero on the assignment to failing the course.* Severe cases and/or repeat offenses of academic dishonesty may also result in more severe disciplinary actions up to and including administrative withdrawal, per the [FVCC Academic Integrity Procedures](https://www.fvcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/fvcc-academic-integrity-procedure-web.pdf) (<https://www.fvcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/fvcc-academic-integrity-procedure-web.pdf>).
- **Copyright:** Please be aware of and follow the copyright protections given by federal law to owners of intellectual property, including books, journals, music, art, multimedia materials, digital materials and software. You may address the issue of copyright by applying the legal principle of “fair use” or other exemptions under Federal Copyright Law which protect many teaching and learning activities, by obtaining the permission of the copyright holder, or by receiving a license to use copyright-protected materials. For more information on copyright and fair use, refer to [Stanford University's Copyright & Fair Use](https://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/) site (<https://fairuse.stanford.edu/overview/>).
- Please work hard, have fun and learn a lot—I want you to enjoy and succeed in this course. The semester will be over before we know it!

Course Access and Environment

- **Academic conduct:** You are expected to follow the core values of student conduct at FVCC: integrity, community, social justice, respect and responsibility. Behavior that disrupts the learning environment will not be tolerated. *Please silence all electronic devices while in class.* All other College regulations, as listed in the [FVCC 2018-2019 Academic Catalog](https://www.fvcc.edu/what-we-offer/college-catalog/) (<https://www.fvcc.edu/what-we-offer/college-catalog/>), apply.
- **Disability access:** FVCC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Learning Center at (406) 756-3880, or stop by LRC 129.
- **Civil Rights, Equity, and Title IX:** FVCC seeks to provide an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have been a victim of harassment, discrimination, or sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, and/or stalking), we encourage you to report this. If you inform me of an issue of harassment, discrimination, or sexual misconduct, I will keep the information as private as I can. However, I am required to bring it to the attention of the Title IX Coordinator. To speak to someone confidentially, please contact one of our non-mandatory reporters: the Mental Health Counselor in the Student Support Center (LRC 129) or the staff at the Student Health Clinic (BC 104). For more information, please visit [FVCC's Title IX & Sexual Misconduct Information](http://www.fvcc.edu/title-ix/) page (<http://www.fvcc.edu/title-ix/>).
- **Student veterans:** FVCC welcomes all student veterans and military family members to campus. To learn about campus support for student veterans, contact Sherry Hodges in the Financial Aid Office in BH 111 at 756-3982.

ENSC 105 S'19 Course Schedule *Tentative and subject to change*

	Date	Lecture Topics	Lab Topics
1	1) W Jan 23 2) F Jan 25	Introduction (Chapter 1) “	1. The scientific method: Ozone
2	3) M Jan 28 4) W Jan 30 5) F Feb 1	Environmental systems (2) “	2. Earth systems science
3	6) M Feb 4 7) W Feb 6 8) F Feb 8	Population ecology (3) “	3. Population modeling
4	9) M Feb 11 10) W Feb 13 11) F Feb 15	Species interactions (4) Human populations (6)	4. Human populations
5	<i>M Feb 18</i> 12) W Feb 20 13) F Feb 22	<i>Presidents' Day (No classes)</i> “ WRAP-UP & REVIEW	5. Biomes on Earth
6	14) M Feb 25 15) W Feb 27 16) F Mar 1	EXAM 1 Biodiversity and biomes (8) “	6. <i>Endangered species presentations</i>
7	17) M Mar 4 18) W Mar 6 19) F Mar 8	“ Mass extinctions (8) Conservation biology (8)	7. “King Corn”
8	20) M Mar 11 21) W Mar 13 22) F Mar 15	Soil (7) <i>Food and agriculture presentations</i> “	8. Soils testing
9	23) M Mar 18 24) W Mar 20 25) F Mar 22	Food and agriculture (7) “ “	9. TBA
<i>M-F Mar 25-29</i>		<i>Spring break (No classes)</i>	
10	26) M Apr 1 27) W Apr 3 28) F Apr 5	Energy (15, 16) “ “	10. Field trip: Flathead Electric Cooperative*
11	29) M Apr 8 30) W Apr 10 31) F Apr 12	WRAP-UP & REVIEW EXAM 2 Atmospheric science (13, 14)	11. “Chasing Ice”
12	32) M Apr 15 33) W Apr 17 34) F Apr 19	“ “ “	12. Field trip: Kalispell water system*
13	35) M Apr 22 36) W Apr 24 37) F Apr 26	Water resources (12) Water resources (12) “	13. Field trip: Kalispell WWTP* 13. Field trip: Kalispell WWTP*
14	38) M Apr 29 39) W May 1 40) F May 3	“ “ Waste management (17)	14. Field trip: Bigfork WWTP*
15	41) M May 6 42) W May 8 43) F May 10	“ “ WRAP-UP & REVIEW	15. Field trip: Dirt Rich Composting*
16	Final exam period: W May 15, 8:00 - 9:50 am EXAM 3		

Important Spring 2019 Semester Dates

Jan 22 (T)	Semester begins
Jan 29 (T)	Last day to register or add full-semester classes without instructor's signature
Feb 1 (F)	Last day to return textbooks for a full refund in College bookstore
Feb 5 (T)	Last day to add full-semester classes (instructor permission required)
Feb 5 (T)	Last day to drop full-semester classes and receive a partial refund
Feb 11 (M)	Last day to drop full-semester classes without a "W" grade recorded; last day to change residency status
Feb 18 (M)	Presidents' Day holiday (No classes; College closed)
Mar 1 (F)	Registration begins, Summer 2019
Mar 4 (M)	Last day to change degree/major
Mar 25-29 (M-F)	Spring break (No classes)
Apr 17 (W)	Last day to drop or request/rescind an audit grade for full-semester classes
May 1 (W)	Graduation applications due for Summer and Fall 2019
May 9-10, 13-16	Textbook sell-back in College bookstore
May 13-16 (M-Th)	Finals
May 16 (Th)	Textbook rentals due in bookstore by 5:00 pm
May 17 (F)	Graduation