GEO 2330 Environmental Science

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OBJECTIVE: If you leave this class with nothing more than a sense of empowerment brought about by obtaining the knowledge required to view environmental science as part of your daily life, I will have succeeded in teaching you. Should you take this knowledge and use it to better your part of the world, perhaps I will have succeeded in inspiring you.

REQUIRED TEXT: 1) Principles of Environmental Science by William P. and Mary Ann Cunningham;

EVALUATION: Grades will be based on 4 criteria: Quizzes (15%), Test 1 (17.5%), Reports (40%), Final Exam (17.5%) and Class Discussions (10%). Grade calculation is determined by: 

\[((\text{Quizzes} \times .15)+(\text{Test 1} \times .175)+(\text{Reports} \times .4)+(\text{Final} \times .175)+(\text{Discussions} \times .1))\times 100\]

ASSIGNMENTS:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/21</td>
<td>Movie Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/28</td>
<td>Environmental Quality</td>
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<td>6/25</td>
<td>Regulatory Office Visit</td>
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<td>7/2</td>
<td>Letter to the Editor</td>
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<td>7/16</td>
<td>Environmental Meeting</td>
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<td>Class Report</td>
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Reports should be between 500 and 550 words (except the letter to the editor which should be 200 words) and submitted to the dropbox in Word or .pdf format. Detailed instructions pertaining to each report can be found on the e-learning home page. Reports will be deducted 10% for every 50 words they are short and 25% for each day they are late.

**I do not re-open quizzes or tests once they close.** Should you miss a quiz or test you have **one** (1) opportunity to summarize the material which is covered on the missed quiz/test and submit it within **one week** of the missed quiz/test. This means if you miss a day with 2 quizzes, you are only allowed to submit a make-up for one of them. I grade these make-ups for effort: more effort = more credit. This option is not available, however, for the final exam. There is no opportunity for make-up of the final exam!

Special Technology Utilized by Students: low-to-medium

Expectations for Academic Conduct/Plagiarism Policy will be followed as stated by:

- [http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/ClassDispur.pdf](http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/ClassDispur.pdf)
- [http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/PlagBroch.pdf](http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/PlagBroch.pdf)

Assistance for Students with Special Needs policy found at:

- [http://uwf.edu/DSS/dss_pub.pdf](http://uwf.edu/DSS/dss_pub.pdf) (page 3)
After completing each week's assignments you will be able to:

**By May 21st**

1. Determine if you need assistance finding information related to class expectations and grading procedures

2. Determine differences and similarities between you, your fellow students and your instructor

3. Recognize some environmental topics which we will cover in greater detail throughout the semester
4. List several environmental systems and cycles and recognize their relevance to the environmental issues discussed in chapter 1

5. Recognize the potential for movies to influence perceptions of environmental issues

**By May 28th**

1. Compare different levels of species populations
2. Recognize the importance of Diversity among species (both individually and as groups)
3. Compare humanities ecological footprint across differing types of communities
4. Compare relevance of several different current environmental issues
5. Compare biodiversity of ecosystems versus biodiversity of species
6. Define different types of and reasons for environmental conservation
7. Construct a verbal snapshot of the environmental quality in the region you live

**By June 11th**

1. Distinguish between sustainable and unsustainable agricultural practices
2. Recognize the global significance of healthy soil
3. Associate environmental factors (not limited to agriculture) which steer evolution

**June 9th – June 16th**

1. Assess your understanding of the first 7 chapters of the book along with supplemental material.

**By June 25th**

1. Define toxicology and recognize associations between it and human health
2. Define carrying capacity and discuss varying opinions related to human population
3. Describe the environmental factors related to the raising of meat products for human ingestion
4. Identify different sources of air pollution and the effect these have on human and environment health.
5. Utilize understanding of environmental issues thus far to interview an environmental professional
6. Report on one example of responsibilities of a regulatory agency
By July 9th

1. Identify different sources of water pollution and the effect these have on human and environment health.

2. Differentiate between water resources in different regions of the world

3. Utilize understanding of environmental issues thus far to write a letter to the editor regarding any local environmental issue.

4. Define many of Earth's resources

5. Recognize some repercussions involving obtaining and using these materials

6. Distinguish between sustainable and unsustainable resource use

7. Discuss the many sides to the climate change debate

By July 16th

1. Define many sources of energy on Earth

2. Analyze the benefits and costs of each of them

3. Discover the agenda of at least one local environmental citizens group in your area

4. Differentiate between types of waste materials

5. Compare different methods of disposal of this waste and environmental issues related to each one

6. Provide possible alternatives to conflicts regarding fresh water availability

By July 30th

1. Provide an alternative to classical economics

2. Define environmental policy and list several associated topics

3. Evaluate your daily decisions and list potential changes to reduce your ecological footprint.