

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2012
SYLLABUS

Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs	
BIOL1132D : Environmental Science Laboratory 0Hrs	
Department of	Life and Health Sciences
Division of	Liberal Arts and Life Sciences
Instructor Name:	Dr. Aubrey Frantz
Office Location:	Room 251, Building 2
Office Phone:	972-338-1523
Email Address:	aubrey.frantz@unt.edu
Office Hours:	M 1:00-2:00 W 4:00-5:00, (If you need another time, please contact me by email)
Virtual Office Hours:	N/A
Classroom Location:	Founders Hall 255
Class Meeting Days & Times:	W 7:00-8:50
Course Catalog Description:	Interdisciplinary approach to understanding basic concepts in environmental science including critical scientific thought, biodiversity, resource management, pollution, global climate change, resource consumption and population growth. Emphasis on how these concepts affect and are affected by human society. Includes laboratory. May not be counted towards a major or minor in biology. May be used to satisfy a portion of the Natural Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.
Prerequisites:	None
Co-requisites:	BIOL1132D Laboratory
Required Text:	<u>Visualizing Environmental Science</u> , LR Berg and MC Hager. 2009. John Wiley and Sons, Inc. NJ. Lab Manual: Environmental Science Laboratory and Field Activities. MK King et al. 2006. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co.
Recommended Text and References:	
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625;

web: <http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm>
UNT Dallas Bookstore:
phone: (972) 780-3652;
e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com

Course Goals or Overview:

The goal of this course is to introduce students to environmental science and to give students the background information needed to critically think about current environmental issues. Topics will include basic ecology, a review of environmental policy and resource management theories. The course will include discussions of current environmental and conservation challenges. Students will be willing and able to voice and defend their opinions on these subjects as well as be respectful of the opinions of others.

Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will

1	Be able to explain the conflicting biological, social, economic and needs of humanity and other living organisms
2	Demonstrate the ability to assimilate and critically think about environmental issues, environmental policy and legislation
3	Define the role of organisms in their environment and the interrelatedness of organisms and environmental processes
4	Identify major components of the ecosystem and their role in global sustainability

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated by the instructor in class.

TIMELINE	TOPICS	Points
9/5	No Lab	
9/12	Lab Safety, Environmental Ethics and the Scientific Method, Experiment 1	10
9/19	Research Techniques – Guest Lecturer from UNT-Dallas Library Library Assignment	5
9/26	Experiment 2: Energy and Photosynthesis	10
10/3	Experiment 3: Food Webs	10
10/10	Movie: <i>Gaslands</i>	5
10/17	Experiment 10: Estimating Ecological Footprint	10
10/24	Experiment 6: Water Quality Analysis Movie: <i>Poisoned Waters</i>	10
10/31	Movie: <i>Kilowatt Ours</i>	5
11/7	Experiment 4: Soil Analysis	10
11/14	Experiment 9: Marine Fisheries	10
11/21	Movie: <i>Cane Toads</i>	5
11/28	Student Presentations	5
12/5	Student Presentations	5
	Total points	100

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Weekly Assignments - During each experiment, you will record observations in the “Report Sheets” provided in your lab manual. These “report sheets” also have calculations to perform and additional questions about the topic. Once an experiment is completed, reports will be due at the beginning of the following lab. Weekly assignments also include handouts for the movies seen in lab.

Presentation and Research Paper – As described in the BIOL1132D lecture syllabus, you will give a presentation and write a short paper on an environmental issue that our society is currently facing. Your presentation should be in a powerpoint format, approximately 10-15 minutes, and include a description of the issue, the causes of the issue and potential resolutions. You will also submit 2-3 page paper that addresses the biological, social, and economic arguments of the environmental issue that you chose to present.

Grade determination: Separate letter grades will not be assigned for the lab. As stated in the syllabus for BIOL 1132D, the lab is worth 20% of your total course grade. This is a large component of your course grade and should be an opportunity to improve your grade, rather than harm it.

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Assignments should be turned in on time. Late assignments will be graded, but with a penalty of 10% each day it is late.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy: *Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be*

tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

Optional Policies:

- *Use of WebCT/Blackboard*
- *Use of Cell Phones & other Electronic Gadgets in the Classroom*
- *Food & Drink in the Classroom*
- *Use of Laptops*
- *Grade of Incomplete, "I"*