SYLLABUS: ENR 2100
INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
SUMMER 2017

Course overview

Instructor
Instructor: Kylienne Shaul, M.S.
Email address: shaul.9@osu.edu
Office hours: By appointment, I will also be available before and after class

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

Description
“Introduction to Environmental Science” will explore the ecological foundation of environmental systems, the ecological impacts of environmental degradation by humans, and strategies for sustainable management of environment and natural resources.

GE Category and Expected learning outcomes
This 3-credit course fulfills the GE Category Natural Science, Biological Science. Natural Science coursework fosters students’ understanding of the principles, theories, and methods of modern science, the relationship between science and technology, the implications of scientific discoveries and the potential of science and technology to address problems of the contemporary world.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

• understand the basic facts, principles, theories and methods of modern science
• understand key events in the development of science and recognize that science is an evolving body of knowledge
• describe the inter-dependence of scientific and technological developments
• recognize social and philosophical implications of scientific discoveries and understand the potential of science and technology to address problems of the contemporary world
Course materials

Required

*Environmental Science for a Changing World*, 1st Edition (2013) or 2nd Edition (2014), by Houtman, Karr, and Interlandi, published by W.H. Freeman. This textbook is available in two different formats: paperback (~$100) or e-Book ($50-$75). The material in the 1st and 2nd editions of this textbook is very similar, however, some chapter numbers are different in these two editions.

*The University Library has a limited number of copies of the textbook available for checkout. Additional copies have been placed on reserve. Take advantage of this resource.*

Additional readings are provided on Carmen, see additional detail in the schedule below.

Course technology

For help with your password, university e-mail, Carmen, or any other technology issues, questions, or requests, contact the OSU IT Service Desk. Standard support hours are available at [https://ocio.osu.edu/help(hours)](https://ocio.osu.edu/help(hours)), and support for urgent issues is available 24x7.

- **Self-Service and Chat support:** [http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice](http://ocio.osu.edu/selfservice)
- **Phone:** 614-688-HELP (4357)
- **Email:** [8help@osu.edu](mailto:8help@osu.edu)
- **TDD:** 614-688-8743

Baseline technical skills necessary for this course

- Basic computer and web-browsing skills
- Navigating Carmen ([https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701](https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701))

Necessary equipment and software

- Computer: current Mac (OS X) or PC (Windows 7+) with high-speed internet connection
- Microsoft Office or other similar word editing software

Grading and faculty response

Final Grade

Your final grade will be based on journal article summaries (25%), quizzes (25%), class attendance and participation (25%), and a final exam (25%). Final Grades will be posted no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, July 31st. After this time, final grades cannot be adjusted. If you wish to discuss your final grade with me, please do so before this time.
Journal Article Summaries (5)

Publishing in peer-reviewed journals is the primary method that scientists use to disseminate their research findings to the larger scientific community. In order to become more familiar with this style of writing and communication, you will use the Ohio State library system to locate, download, and summarize peer-reviewed scientific research. Approximately 1 summary will be due each week. More details will be given in class.

Final Exam

The Final Exam will be administered on the last day of class (Friday, July 28) during our normal class period (9:20 am - 11:25 am). Exam questions may consist of true/false, multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. A significant number of exam questions will come from material presented in the lecture. Additional material will be drawn from the textbook, assigned readings and videos. Each student must complete the exam on her or his own. Additional details will be provided in class.

Quizzes (5)

Approximately one quiz will be given each week and will be taken online through Carmen. Questions will be based on assigned readings, videos, and lecture materials. Each quiz will be available for multiple days and you may take the quiz at anytime during its availability. You will have two attempts to take each quiz and I will keep your highest score.

Participation

Attendance and participation is important to your success in this course. Participation will be based on assignments given during or at the end of a class session. The assignment will not be posted on Carmen. If you are absent on the day a participation assignment is given, you can email me to receive the assignment details only if the absence is valid (e.g. a documented illness, a student organization/sports related activity, or for some other legitimate reason). On some days, participation points will be earned through in-class activities. If you miss class but have a valid excuse, a make-up activity may be assigned. Two essential rules must be followed: (1) non-illness absences must be requested BEFORE the class session for which the absence will occur; and (2) the absence requires documentation which must be on official letterhead, a legible signature, and a phone number to the clinic/coach/student organization advisor for verification.

Top Hat, a web-based student response system, will be used for many of our participation activities. We will discuss using Top Hat during our first class session. More information can also be found through Ohio State’s Resource Center: http://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/top-hat
Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment or Category</th>
<th>% Of Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journal Article Summaries (5)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation (assessed each class)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (5)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

See course schedule, below, for due dates

Late assignments

In general, late assignments are not accepted and make-up exams are not given. Assignments submitted after the due date will only be accepted with a valid, documented excuse. Make-up exams will only be administered for valid reasons (e.g., medical excuse). If you are sick, you MUST have a note signed by your medical doctor (i.e. a licensed physician) and dated the same day as the exam. Otherwise, you will receive a zero on the exam. I will determine if your excuse is valid. If you do NOT have a reasonable excuse for missing an assignment or exam then you will receive a ZERO for that assignment. Approved make-up exams will consist of short-answer and essay questions.

Grading scale

93–100: A    90–92.9: A-
87–89.9: B+   83–86.9: B   80–82.9: B-
77–79.9: C+   73–76.9: C   70–72.9: C-
67–69.9: D+   60–66.9: D
Below 60: E

Faculty feedback and response time

I am providing the following list to give you an idea of my intended availability throughout the course. (Remember that you can call 614-688-HELP at any time if you have a technical problem.)

Grading and feedback

For large weekly assignments, you can generally expect feedback within 7 days.
E-mail
I will reply to e-mails within **24 hours on school days**.

Other course policies

**Academic integrity policy**

Policies for this online course

- **Quizzes and exams**: You must complete the quizzes and final exam yourself, without any external help or communication.
- **Written assignments**: Your written assignments, including discussion posts, should be your own original work. In formal assignments, you should follow APA style to cite the ideas and words of your research sources. You are encouraged to ask a trusted person to proofread your assignments before you turn them in--but no one else should revise or rewrite your work.
- **Reusing past work**: In general, you are prohibited in university courses from turning in work from a past class to your current class, even if you modify it. If you want to build on past research or revisit a topic you've explored in previous courses, please discuss the situation with me.
- **Falsifying research or results**: All research you will conduct in this course is intended to be a learning experience; you should never feel tempted to make your results or your library research look more successful than it was.

**Ohio State’s academic integrity policy**

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Thus, The Ohio State University and the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM) expect that all students have read and understand the University’s *Code of Student Conduct*, and that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. Students must recognize that failure to follow the rules and guidelines established in the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* and this syllabus may constitute “Academic Misconduct.”

The Ohio State University’s *Code of Student Conduct* (Section 3335-23-04) defines academic misconduct as: “Any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process.” Examples of academic misconduct include (but are not limited to) plagiarism, collusion (unauthorized collaboration), copying the work of another student, and possession of unauthorized materials during an examination. Ignorance of the University’s *Code of Student Conduct* is never considered an “excuse” for academic misconduct, so I recommend that you review the *Code of Student Conduct* and, specifically, the sections dealing with academic misconduct.
If I suspect that a student has committed academic misconduct in this course, I am obligated by University Rules to report my suspicions to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. If COAM determines that you have violated the University’s Code of Student Conduct (i.e., committed academic misconduct), the sanctions for the misconduct could include a failing grade in this course and suspension or dismissal from the University.

If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact me.

Other sources of information on academic misconduct (integrity) to which you can refer include:

- The Committee on Academic Misconduct web pages (COAM Home)
- Ten Suggestions for Preserving Academic Integrity (Ten Suggestions)
- Eight Cardinal Rules of Academic Integrity (www.northwestern.edu/uacc/8cards.htm)

**Accessibility accommodations for students with disabilities**

**Requesting accommodations**

If you would like to request academic accommodations based on the impact of a disability qualified under the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, contact your instructor privately as soon as possible to discuss your specific needs. Discussions are confidential.

In addition to contacting the instructor, please contact the Student Life Disability Services at 614-292-3307 or ods@osu.edu to register for services and/or to coordinate any accommodations you might need in your courses at The Ohio State University.

Go to http://ods.osu.edu for more information.

**Accessibility of course technology**

This online course requires use of Carmen (Ohio State's learning management system) and other online communication and multimedia tools. If you need additional services to use these technologies, please request accommodations with your instructor.

- Carmen (Canvas) accessibility
- Streaming audio and video
- Synchronous course tools
# Course schedule (tentative)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topics and Assignments</th>
<th>Textbook Chapters* and Directions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6/20 – 6/23</td>
<td>Introduction, Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>Appendix 1&amp;2, Chapter 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>QUIZ 1: Using Web of Science</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6/26 – 6/30</td>
<td>Scientific Process, Persistent Pollutants, Human Populations</td>
<td>Chapter 2, 3, &amp; 5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>QUIZ 2: Weeks 1-2 Material</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SUMMARY 1: Any Week 2 topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7/3 – 7/7</td>
<td>Ecosystems and Nutrient Cycling, Population Ecology</td>
<td>Chapter 7, 8, &amp; 9</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SUMMARY 2: Any Week 3 topic</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7/10 – 7/14</td>
<td>Freshwater Resources, Protecting Earth's Freshwater</td>
<td>Chapter 17 &amp; 18</td>
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<td>QUIZ 4: Week 4 Material</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SUMMARY 3: Any Week 4 topic</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7/17 – 7/21</td>
<td>Protecting Earth's Atmosphere, Environmental Cost of Coal</td>
<td>Chapter 23, 24, &amp; 25</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>and Oil</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<td></td>
<td>QUIZ 5: Week 5 Material</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SUMMARY 4: Any Week 5 topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7/24 – 7/28</td>
<td>Alternative and Renewable Energy</td>
<td>Chapter 27, 28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SUMMARY 5: Any Week 6 topic</td>
<td>DUE online using CARMEN</td>
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<td>ACCUMULATIVE FINAL EXAM (7/28) In Class, 9:20 am – 11:25 am</td>
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Every attempt has been made to ensure that the information in the syllabus is complete and accurate. However, mistakes such as typographical errors may occur on occasion. I will address any errors on this syllabus during lecture. The schedule shown above is tentative and will likely change throughout the semester depending on how quickly or slowly we cover the material in class.