

EVR1001 Syllabus Summer 2026 CRN 50136

Course Description

Introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Topics include ecosystem structure and function; population patterns, and dynamics; pollution of the air, water and land; and resource management. This course satisfies general education requirements for the physical sciences.

Course Materials

Textbook: *Essential Environment* by Withgott and Laposata, 6th Edition.

Computer: A computer with a reliable internet connection is necessary for this e-learning course.

Webcam: A webcam is needed for Respondus Monitor to ensure sterile test conditions.

Office hours

Canvas emails sent to the instructor will be answered within 1-2 days. Direct emails via ahyman@gulfcoast.edu will typically be answered sooner.

Curriculum

1. Course Description: Environmental Science is an introduction to the study of major environmental problems and issues confronting modern society. Topics include ecosystem structure and function, population patterns and dynamics; food, water, soil, and energy resources; pollution of the air, water, and land; and resources management.
2. Instructional Delivery: Instruction will be delivered as Units and Core Issues and will consist of a mixture of lectures/videos for note-taking and reading assignments from the textbook that accompany the lectures. Assessment will include exams, quizzes, and homework.
3. Goals of Course: Students will be able to explain how living things interact with each other and their environment and they will describe how humans have altered the Earth.
4. Approved Student Learning Outcomes:
 1. Apply critical thinking to analysis and interpretation of environmental information and model outputs.
 2. Apply the scientific method to explain natural experiences and phenomena.
 3. Explain the basic chemical, biological, and physical principles of environmental science.
 4. Use empirical evidence to describe the historical and modern context of environmental problems and their solutions.

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Course Information:

Title: Introduction to Environmental Science

Number: EVR 1001

Credits: 3.0

Attendance & Withdrawal Policy

- 1. Attendance Policy:** You must login and participate in an academic activity by the end of the first week of class to remain in the course. Students who fail to submit academic work in the first week will be reported as a “no show.” Your attendance to orientation, testing dates, and completion of weekly assignments posted on Canvas count as attendance. Please contact your instructor when you miss a test or a weekly assignment.
- 2. Withdrawal Policy-Grade Forgiveness-Attempts:** Students wishing to withdraw from a course must complete a withdrawal form and submit the form to the Office of Enrollment Services before the scheduled withdrawal date as published on the college calendar. Student withdrawals initiated prior to the scheduled withdrawal deadline will be recorded as a grade of “W”.
- 3. Consequences of Withdrawals:** Two withdrawals are permitted per credit course. After that, a grade will be assigned. Please be concerned about withdrawals. When admitting students into certain programs, universities may calculate withdrawals as grades. It is your responsibility to verify the effects of enrollment and/or withdrawal upon your financial assistance (financial aid, scholarships, grants, etc.).
- 4. Incomplete Grade Policy:** To receive a grade of “I” (for “Incomplete”) in a class, the student must submit a written request to the instructor prior to the last day of the course. The “Incomplete” option is only intended to help students who have an emergency arise in the last two weeks of the class that prevents them from finishing all work. The “Incomplete” provides 30 days from the ending date of the course to make up any missing work. If work is not submitted during this time period, the grade will automatically change to an “F”.

Exams

Please see 'Course Summary' below for exam dates

<u>Exam Schedule</u>	<u>Covers</u>
Exam 1	Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4
Exam 2	Chapters 6, 7, and 8
Exam 3	Chapters 9, 11, and 12
Exam 4	Chapters 13, 14 and 15
Final Exam	Material from all previous tests, plus chapters 10, 16, and 17

Graded Work

All student work will be submitted digitally through our Canvas learning site.

- 1. Weekly Assignments:** Weekly assignments are at their specified calendar dates. To access the weekly assignments, please click on the following links on Canvas: MODULES. Each assignment will require 3-4 hours of your time. Please note that not all weeks may have scheduled assignments. ***It is your responsibility to check the Canvas calendar to determine which weeks assignments will be due.***

2. Quizzes: Chapter quizzes covering course material are due prior to each of the four comprehensive tests. To access chapter quizzes, please click on the following links on Canvas: MODULES. **All quizzes are meant to be study materials and are open book.**

3. Testing: You will have four tests and a final exam. All tests and the final exam require a personal computer with Respondus-Lockdown Browser and a webcam for Respondus Monitor. Students are expected to install this program prior to the first exam. Use this link and follow directions to install Respondus. **Exams are meant to be assessments of student learning, and as a result are closed book. Use of any virtual or physical materials on Exams will be considered cheating.** <https://www.gulfcoast.edu/administration-departments/information-technology-services/students/how-to/respondus.html>

Note: the final exam will replace the lowest test grade.

Your Grade

TESTS	40%
QUIZZES	20%
WEEKLY ASSN.	20%
FINAL EXAM	20%

1. **Letter Grades:** The college catalog will be used to convert the numerical average to a letter grade. The college grading scale is A (100-90), B (89-80), C (79-70), D (69-60), and F (59-0).

2. **Grades posted on Canvas:** All of your grades will be posted on Canvas. Your grades for weekly assignments, quizzes, tests, scientific essay, the final exam, and your overall average will be posted on Canvas.

3. **Extra Credit:** *No extra credit is offered for this course.*

Make Up Work: The benefits on online courses include flexibility of accommodations and schedule. Students should contact the instructor to reach agreements on grades for late assignments.

Communication

All information regarding this course will be posted on Canvas. The instructor will communicate with you via *e-mail on Canvas*, announcements on your Canvas home page, and alerts when you click on the course Canvas site. Please check the Canvas calendar to determine when assignments are due.

Academic Integrity Policy

Honest participation in academic endeavors fosters an environment in which optimal learning can take place and is consistent with the college's mission. Academic misconduct, including cheating or plagiarism, is destructive to the spirit of an educational environment and therefore will not be tolerated. "Cheating" includes but is not limited to use of any unauthorized assistance in completing course work. "Plagiarism" includes, but it not limited to, the use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. Sanctions for incidences of academic misconduct, depending on the severity of the incidence and/or its repetition, may range from receiving an F grade (or zero) for the test, assignment, or activity, to failure of the course, to suspension or dismissal from the program or the college.

Student Accessibility Resources

Gulf Coast State College supports an inclusive learning environment for all students. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that hinder your full participation, reasonable accommodations can be arranged. Prior to receiving accommodation, you must register with Student Accessibility Resources (SAR). Appropriate academic accommodations will be determined based on the documented needs of the student. For information regarding the registration process email sar@gulfcoast.edu or call 850-747-3243.