

Hagerstown Community College

MASTER SYLLABUS

COURSE: Environmental Science Bio117

DATE: Spring 2015

INSTRUCTOR: Nickerson

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a lecture/discussion/lab course which explores topics in Environmental Science such as sustainability, biogeochemical cycles, ecosystems, environmental economics, human population, sustainable agriculture, conservation, environmental health, water pollution, atmospheric pollution, global climate change, renewable and non-renewable energy and sustainable cities. This course is offered wholly online with the exception of 2 exams, which must be taken after showing photo ID in the Testing Center on campus (LRC322) or an approved remote testing location. On-line students are responsible for your own learning and for meeting all course requirements on schedule. Total of 90 hours of contact.

TEXTBOOK: Essential Environment. The Science Behind the Stories, 4th ed., Withgott, J., Laposta, W., Pearson Publishing, 2012, ISBN-10: 0-321-75290-2 with access to Mastering Environmental Science website.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will access, process, analyze and synthesize scientific information.
- Students will apply knowledge of specific course content to build an understanding of environmental issues.
- Students will apply the scientific method and critical thinking skills in order to draw logical conclusions based on the analysis of scientific data.
- Students will use technology by applying computer and information literacy skills to access online learning materials and conduct online research.
- Students will use verbal and writing skills to discuss their personal ethical values, and present factual information which can be used to justify their philosophical positions on controversial environmental issues.

MINIMUM CLOCK HOURS REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE:

To earn one academic credit at HCC, students are required to complete a minimum of 37.5 clock hours (45 fifty-minute “academic” hours) of coursework per semester. Those hours of coursework may be completed through a combination of hours within the classroom and hours outside the classroom. Certain courses may require more than the 37.5 minimum hours of coursework per credit.

For most classes, students should expect to do at least 2 hours of coursework outside of class for each hour of in-class coursework.

| Class activity | Hours/assignment | Total hours needed to complete all activities |
|--|---|--|
| Reading assigned chapter in text book | 414 pages x 80 minutes/25 pages | 22 |
| Reviewing/reading posted lecture notes | 18 chapters x 1.5 hr/chapter | 27 |
| Completing Lab Activities | 10 lab activities x 5 hrs/lab | 50 |
| Completing homework assignments | 18 homework assignments x 1.5 hour/assignment | 27 |
| Logging on to Moodle & Mastering Environmental Science for class announcements/Q&A | 15 weeks x 0.5 hr/week | 7.5 |
| Participating in Discussion Forum | Composing 10 Discussion posts x 1 hour/post + Reading weekly Discussion posts = 1 hr/week | 24 |
| Research and writing for topical essay | 1 essay x 6 hours/essay | 6 |
| Studying for and completing online quizzes | 18 online quizzes x 1 hr/quiz | 18 |
| Studying for and completing exams | 2 exams x 8 hr/exam = 16 hours | 16 |
| Total hours required | | 197.5 |

