ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

El Centro College
Dallas County Community College District

Instructor Information
Name: Kayla Gibbs
Telephone: 214-860-2429
Email: kgibbs@dcccd.edu
Office Location: N/A
Office Hours: N/A, please email if you need to speak with me.

Course Information
Course Title: Environmental Science 1402
Course & Section Number: ENVR 1402, Section 53426
Semester/Year: Spring 2019
Credit Hours: 4
Class Meeting Time/Location: Online

Course Description
Interdisciplinary study of both natural (biology, chemistry, geology) and social (economics, politics, ethics) as they apply to the environment. Focus on energy issues, global warming, ozone loss, land use, conservation and management, deforestation, biodiversity, the history of environmental law and regulation and local environmental problems. (3 Lec., 3 Lab.)
Coordinating Board Academic Approval Number 0301035201

Course Prerequisites
Developmental Reading 0093 or English as a Second Language (ESOL) 0044 or have met the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) standard in reading.

Statement of Purpose and Core Objectives
Statement of Purpose
Through the Texas Core Curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

Core Objectives
This course supports, develops, and assesses the following Core Objectives:
A. Critical Thinking Skills (CT) - creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

B. Communication Skills (COM) - effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
C. Empirical and Quantitative Skills (EQS) - manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
D. Teamwork (TW) - ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
Learning Outcomes are based on the Core Objectives above. Students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate the collection, analysis, and reporting of data using the scientific method.
2. Describe the principles of population ecology.
3. Interpret age structure diagrams and relate to human population demographics. (Critical Thinking)
4. Discuss soil properties and characterize the types of soils and identify soil problems as well as soil conservation techniques.
5. Explain why biodiversity is important, discuss why biodiversity is declining, and propose methods for the conservation of biodiversity. (Critical Thinking and Communication Skills)
6. Discuss the causes of global atmospheric changes and explain how today changes relate to those of the past.
7. Outline the environmental impacts of agriculture and propose ways in which agriculture can be more sustainable.
8. Describe world land use and identify environmental problems as well as identify sustainable solutions.

About the Syllabus
Please read the following thoroughly. Your syllabus is the most important document you will receive in this class and you are responsible for knowing all the information in this document. Your grade in this course is dependent on your knowledge of this information. I highly suggest that you print a copy of the syllabus and keep it with you.

Required Course Materials

This El Centro College custom edition including only chapters studied in El Centro’s ENVR 1402 course. The textbook can only be purchased through El Centro College Bookstore; cost $53. Textbook can be purchased online through the ECC bookstore website. Bookstore will mail textbooks to you if requested. This edition is not available for rent or purchase online.
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

OR


Purchasing all materials for this course is REQUIRED. You must have your books and materials within the first week of the course. If you are unable to purchase them in a timely fashion, I would advise dropping the course, as you will not be able to complete the assignments without them.

Grading Policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation Procedures</th>
<th>Method of Evaluation:</th>
<th>Total Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Quiz</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Chapter Quizzes (5 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Chapter Tests (32 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td>352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Labs 1 &amp; 10 (60 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Labs 2-9 (25 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Assignments (20 points each)</td>
<td></td>
<td>80</td>
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Points = 825

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>832-925</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>740-831</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>647-739</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>555-646</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 554</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

1.) Syllabus Quiz – This is a quiz that covers the information in the ENVR 1402 syllabus. This quiz can be found in the Assignments tab > Syllabus Quiz. This assignment is worth 18 points.

2.) Reading assignments – To get here, click on the Assignments Tab, and then click on the module folder. Typically there is one chapter to read each week. This is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the course information.

3.) PowerPoint slides are available for further understanding and to highlight concepts that will be covered on the tests. PowerPoint slides can be found within each module for each chapter. Reading the Chapter Summary at the end of each chapter is also helpful to help in preparation for the quizzes and exams.

4.) Chapter Quizzes – There are 11 chapter quizzes worth 5 points each. Quizzes consist of 5 multiple choice questions. Quizzes are not timed and must be completed once quiz is accessed. Quizzes are intended to check your understanding of concepts covered in each chapter before taking the chapter test. All questions on quiz are based on information from the chapter.

5.) Chapter Tests – There are 11 chapter tests worth 32 points each. You will have 30 minutes to answer 16 multiple choice questions. You are encouraged to complete all assignments (read chapter, view powerpoint, watch videos, and compete lab, chapter quiz, discussion post) before attempting a chapter test. Often material covered in assignments will help to prepare you for a chapter test, however test questions are associated with information found within the chapter.

The tests are timed, you have to know the material before attempting the test. No supplementary supplies are allowed, all tests and exams are considered closed-book.

Once you open the test, be prepared to complete it. If you take half the exam and then log off, you will NOT be able to finish the test. *See bullet points 3, 5, and 6 under the Other Important Information on page 8 of this syllabus. The chapter tests are available to the student from the first day of class, and the student is welcome to work ahead. To access the tests go to Assignment Tab> Module #> Chapter #.

In order to improve test security, once an exam has been taken, you will not be able to access the exam again to find out which questions you answered correctly and incorrectly. For this reason I do not give a comprehensive final exam. Please do not ask me which questions you got wrong, unless you are certain there was an error with the answer choices.
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

6.) Research Project/Paper – You will be working on a project for the semester in which the final product is a research paper worth a total of 100 points. It is highly recommended that you view and adhere to the directions and grading rubric for this assignment for you to successfully complete it. I will NOT accept any late papers. If you plagiarize more than 30% of your paper, you will be dropped a letter grade for the course. If you plagiarize more than 50% of your paper, you will fail the course.

7.) Labs – To get here, click on the “Assignments” tab, and then click on the module and chapter you are working on. Assignments are listed in the order of their due date.
You will complete 2 Labs (1 & 10), worth 60 points each. Detailed directions for these labs are given in Blackboard. Carefully read all instructions.

Labs 2-9 are worth 25 points each & Lab 10 is worth 60 points. Labs can be found within eCampus. Click on the lab you want to complete and download the associated word documents and PDF files.

Once you complete the lab, upload your word .doc file to the same folder.

For labs submitted as a word document. You should answer all questions in BLUE color font, and maintain original formatting of the document throughout.

Syllabus Quiz
This is a quiz that covers the information in the ENVR 1402 Environmental Science syllabus. This quiz can be found in the Assignments tab and is titled “Syllabus Quiz”.

Accessing Your Grades
After the deadline for an assignment, I will have your grades posted usually within a week. (If you turn it in early, that is fine, just know that I may not have it posted until a week after the deadline for that particular assignment.) You can access your grades through the “Tools” area by clicking “My Grades”.

Course Policies
Attendance Policy
This is a 100% online course. Therefore, you will not be required to attend a conventional classroom at a set time on set days. You are free to schedule your class time any way you wish, but you are responsible for keeping up with the lecture and lab
activities. This is a serious college-level science course, so manage your time wisely. All due dates are final, so do not put everything off to the last minute!

Note: In order to be certified in this class, you must submit at least 1 assignment (participate in the “Introduction” discussion board, syllabus quiz, lab, for example).

Late Work Policy
I have high expectations for all my students and expect everyone to respect the deadlines. Although this is an online course, there are deadlines to meet each week: every Thursday by Midnight (11:59 PM), except for the last exam. I would highly advise that you work ahead of the schedule I have listed.

I will only allow students to make up work in extreme circumstances (severe illness, death of a family member, etc.), but you must contact me BEFORE the deadline or it will be too late, no matter what the excuse is. There are no exceptions to this rule. Once the deadline has passed for each module, then you will no longer be able to access the quizzes and exam within that module, no matter the excuse.

If you think you will be unable to access eCampus on certain weeks, please work ahead, as it is unacceptable to ask for deadline extensions if you plan on travelling, or if anticipated work-related travel is required. If missing assignments accumulate due to extenuating circumstances and you cannot work ahead, you will be advised to drop the course rather than taking a failing grade.

Extra Credit Policy - No extra in this course.

Student Responsibility
This is college and you are responsible for your grade. You also bear the full responsibility for reading all required course material, both in hard copy (textbooks) and electronic media. Your failure to read all required information can – and frequently does – result in disaster.

Withdrawal Policy
The last day to withdraw from a class without a grade is April 17, 2019, by 5:00 PM in the Registrar’s Office (A130). Failure to withdraw from a course will result in a performance grade (F, in more instances than not.)

Important Information Recap
- All assignments are available the first day of class, and the student is highly encouraged to work ahead.
- All assignments are due by date stated in the course calendar.
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

- If you need an extension for an assignment, you need to request it BEFORE the deadline.

Internet Access

- I recognize that Internet connection problems and/or computer trouble do occur from time to time, but these are not valid excuses for failing to complete the work on time. For those that live in the Dallas area, the campus computing center on the 4th floor is open during regular campus hours.

- When taking exams, I realize there may be a time that I will have to reset your exam, because your computer shuts down or internet connection freezes. Please be aware of my exam policy: I will gladly reset your exam 2 times, if necessary, but after that, your score will be reduced by 50% if you ask me to reset it. This is 2 exam resets the entire semester, not 2 resets per exam. You need to be prepared to take the exams. Please know that if I reset an exam for you that you will receive a completely different exam with different questions than what you had before. I use a very large test bank, so even if you are sitting next to a friend taking the same exam, you will not have the same questions.

- Do not wait until the last few hours of the last day to take an exam. You need to give yourself plenty of time just in-case you need to email me due to a problem. Please understand if you need an exam reset during the last few hours before the due date of an exam, you may not receive it.

eCampus Test Tips

- **eCampus has a 3-hour session time limit.** If you have been logged in for some time before taking an exam, please log out and close your browser, then reopen your browser and login to take your exam.

- Check your Java settings, if more than 1 version exists, then remove the older versions. To check versions, do the following: -Click on Start>Control Panel>Add or Remove Programs>Look for J2SE Runtime Environment.

- Use a [supported browser](#).

- Turn off popup blockers and antivirus software while taking exams.

- Turn off the Visual Text Box Editor. When logged into eCampus, under MY DCCCD tab, in the TOOLS box, click on Personal Information>Set Visual Text Box Editor Options>then Unavailable and click Submit.

- Wait for all questions to load before starting the exam.

- Use Save buttons sparingly.

- Single click the Submit button and wait until you get a confirmation.
ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019

- If you have issues with your exam, contact me, and then contact Technical Support for help at 972-669-6402.

Things NOT to Do While Taking Exams
- Do not use the back button.
- Do not resize or refresh your browser window.
- Don't wait until the last few hours to take your exams.
- Don't run any other applications (e.g. iTunes, IM programs, email notification, Skype, etc.)
- Don't use a wireless internet connection.
- Don't use the return/enter key.
- Don't double click exam links or buttons.
- Don't attempt to access other web pages while taking exams.

Academic Ethics
Any violation of the Student Code of Conduct (as printed in the El Centro College Catalogue and available at http://www1.dcccd.edu/catalog/about/standard.cfm) will be penalized accordingly. All violations will be forwarded to the proper college authorities for review. The college may, at its discretion, impose additional penalties on the student including academic probation, suspension, or expulsion.

All labs, research paper, other assignments must be the product of the student’s own personal effort. Same/similar wording on two or more student’s labs or other assignments (for questions that are short answer or essay style) can be considered as evidence of dishonesty and all labs/assignments involved can receive a score of zero.

If in grading labs I have reason to suspect cheating and/or collusion, proving innocence is the student’s responsibility, and all involved students – if collusion is proven – will receive a zero (0) on that assignment. I will report the violation immediately and encourage the appropriate authorities to pursue the offense with all due vigor. Be aware that in instances of academic dishonesty, I am relentless and unyielding. Do not give me reason to think you may have committed such an act.

Institutional Policies
All El Centro students are responsible for knowing and adhering to the following institutional and course-related policies:
- Institutional Policies
- Course-related Institutional Policies
Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary. Provisions contained in this Syllabus do not constitute a contract between the Student and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Discipline Coordinator/Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the Student. The Instructor-of-Record may provide additional information to enhance the course to meet the needs of the enrolled students provided that the enhancements do not conflict with the official course syllabus.

Lecture & Lab Schedule
Assignments are due by, Midnight (11:59 PM) on date stated in calendar.

Below are the due dates for various assignments, labs, and the dates during which you must take your exams. I encourage you to note these various dates in your smartphone, day planner, or any other format in which you keep track of important dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>START HERE</th>
<th>Point value of assignment is indicated in (). You may work ahead and complete assignment as quickly as you like. You must submit work for grading by date indicated.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete Syllabus Quiz (13) Due February 3, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Check email address listed in eConnect, and update if needed.</td>
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<td>Post to discussion forum: Introductions</td>
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<td>Purchase SimBio lab subscription and course textbook</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1</th>
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| Chapter 1 & 2 Due February 10, by midnight | Read Chapter 1 –Climate Change
*Note- Lab 1 Solar Cooker Project is a group project due later in the semester.
Take Chapter 1 Quiz (5)
Take Chapter 1 Test (32)
Class Assignment 1: Watch “Extreme Ice” and complete video questions (20) |
| Read Chapter 2: The Human Population | |
| Complete Lab 2: Population Growth (25) | |
| Take Chapter 2 Quiz (5) | |
| Take Chapter 2 Test (32) | |

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 2</th>
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</table>
| Chapter 3 & 4 Due February 24, by midnight | Read Chapter 3: The Urban Environment
Complete Lab 3: Alternative Energy Technologies (25)
Take Chapter 3 Quiz (5)
Take Chapter 3 Test (32) |
<p>| Chapter 4: Energy Consumption | |
| Lab 4: The Cost of Electricity (25) | |
| Take Chapter 4 Quiz (5) | |
| Take Chapter 4 Test (32) | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ENVR 1402 (Section 53426), Spring 2019</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper- Part 1 Wiki Assignment Due</td>
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**Module 3**

| Chapter 5 & 6 | Read Chapter 5 : Fossil Fuels  
Complete Lab 5- Fossil Fuels: Coal & Oil (25)  
Complete Lab 6 – Fossil Fuels: Natural Gas (25)  
Take Chapter 5 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 5 Test (32) |
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<tr>
<td>Due</td>
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Sunday, March 17, by midnight |
| Spring break | Read Chapter 6: Renewable Energy & Nuclear Power  
Class Assignment 2: Watch: Battle for Chernobyl and complete video questions (20)  
Lab 7: Essay on Nuclear Energy (25)  
Take Chapter 6 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 6 Test (32) |
| March 11-15 |

**Module 4**

| Chapters, 7, 8, & 9 | Read Chapter 7: Mineral Resources  
Lab 8: Mining (25)  
Take Chapter 7 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 7 Test (32)  
Read Chapter 8: Solid and Hazardous Waste  
Lab 9: Superfund Sites (25)  
Take Chapter 8 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 8 Test (32) |
| --- | --- |
| Due Sunday, April 21, by midnight | Read Chapter 9 Air Pollution  
Class Assignment 3: Watch Global Dimming and complete video questions (20)  
Take Chapter 9 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 9 Test (32)  
Submit Research Paper (100) |

**Last day to drop with a “W” April 17th**

**Module 5**

| Chapters 10 & 11 | Read Chapter 10: Biological Resources  
Lab 10: Threatened and Endangered Species Report (60)  
Post to Discussion Forum: Threaten & Endangered Species Report  
Take Chapter 10 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 10 Test (32) |
| --- | --- |
| Due Sunday, May 12, by midnight | Read Ch. 11: Food Resources  
Class Assignment 4: Watch “River of Waste” and complete video questions (20)  
Take Chapter 11 Quiz (5)  
Take Chapter 11 Test (32) |