



Introduction to Environmental Studies

The University of Toledo

Department of Environmental Sciences, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Course Number: EEES 2010, Section 001, Spring 2015

Instructor:	Dr. Todd Crail	Term:	Spring 2015
Email:	todd.crail@utoledo.edu	Class Location:	Bowman Oddy 1014
Office Hours:	T 11-2, W 2-4 and by appt.	Class Day/Time:	M W 12:30-1:45 pm
Office Location:	BO 2001-E	Credit Hours:	3 (for credit in the major)
Office Phone:	419.530.4583		

COURSE/CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Introduction to issues currently affecting environmental quality. Fundamental scientific concepts relating to those issues and ethical, economic, legal and political considerations that affect the resolution of environmental problems.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The goal of this course is to give students a broad introduction to Environmental Studies including both the natural sciences and the social, political, and economic forces that contribute to topics of environmental management. The course is organized into three sections. The first section provides a basic understanding of the history and issues that have culminated in the Environmental Movement. The second section covers environmental science topics that address environmental problems. And finally, the third section will feature guest lectures by professionals from across Lucas County, and potentially considers legal, economic, political, ethical and social factors that contribute to, or work against, solutions to environmental problems. Our speakers will hopefully relate directly to careers you are considering.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Demonstrate comprehension of the History of the Environmental Movement
- Demonstrate comprehension of environmental science processes
- Demonstrate their ability to enact change in their community
- Demonstrate community engagement with regional partners

PREREQUISITES AND COREQUISITES

None

REQUIRED TEXTS AND ANCILLARY MATERIALS

“A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There” – Aldo Leopold

“What are People For?” – Wendell Berry

“Ecoliterate – How Educators are Cultivating Emotional, Social and Ecological Intelligence” – Daniel Goleman, Lisa Bennett & Zenobia Barlow



COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Attendance: Although attendance is not a requirement, your presence or absence at each class will impact your grade. Success in this course is strongly correlated with attendance. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to obtain any class notes or pertinent information from a fellow student.

Courtesy: Please remember that all others in this classroom have paid for this time. Any distractions (conversations, cell phones, mp3 players, social media, shopping, etc.) deplete the value of the course to others, regardless of the distraction you cause for yourself. If you attend a class session, I ask you to stay for the entire time period. If you must leave early, please be considerate of the others who have paid for this course and find a seat near the exit.

All email correspondence will be sent to your UT account.

GRADING

Your grade will be based on three 200-point exams (600 points), eighteen 20-point writing assignments (360 points) that will help with your reading and class discussion, and four 10-point Q&A sheets (40 points) to help guide discussion with our guest lecturers (1000 points total).

The exams will include various formats including multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Your overall grade will be calculated on a straight scale (A, 100 – 93%; A-, 92 – 90%; B+, 89 – 87%; B, 86 – 83%; B-, 82 – 80%; etc.) based on your earned points total.

Dr. Crail will not take attendance during lectures. However, the in-class material is only worth half as much after it has been collected, PERIOD, regardless of reason. It is your responsibility to prepare, attend and participate in class... After all, you are the one who paid to be there, whether you chose to or not.

If you know that you will have a conflict with an exam, Dr. Crail must be notified in writing at least one week in advance of the original test date so that arrangements can be made for making up the test. In general, the only acceptable reasons for missing an exam are illness and family emergencies. If you miss an exam and fail to contact Dr. Crail prior to missing an exam, you will not be given a make-up exam.

Although the policy of not accepting late in-class material for full credit may seem extreme, this is offset by a generous Extra Credit offering. There will be a minimum of *seventeen* Service Learning opportunities to do volunteer work that is worth 10 points (1% of your grade) per hour worked. This primarily occurs on each Friday (11-3) at the University Church and the 1st and 3rd Sunday afternoon (1p-5p) at Irwin Prairie SNP, both when weather permits. Transportation is provided to Irwin Prairie from Campus (12:30p – 5:30p), but you will need to arrange your own transportation to University Church.



Grading Summary:

	Frequency	Points
Exams	Three	600 (200 per exam)
Reading Assignments	Eighteen	360 (20 per assignment)
Speaker Questions	Four	40 (10 per speaker)
Service Learning	University Church – Every Friday 9-5 Irwin Prairie - First and Third Sunday of each month 1-5 pm	10 extra credit points per hour worked (up to 10 hours / 100 points)

The last day to withdraw from class is March 27th, 2015.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The University is an equal opportunity educational institution. Please read [The University's Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance](#).

Academic Accommodations

The University of Toledo is committed to providing equal access to education for all students. If you have a documented disability or you believe you have a disability and would like information regarding academic accommodations/adjustments in this course please contact the [Student Disability Services Office](#).

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic dishonesty: Academic dishonesty of any kind is prohibited. Students who violate the University's policy should expect disciplinary action. University of Toledo's academic dishonesty policy statement can be viewed at <http://www.utoledo.edu/dl/students/dishonesty.html>

Due to the collaborative nature of this course, students in the past have felt that it was appropriate to copy one another's answers, both on tests and on reflections. This will not be tolerated:

- Best case scenario: loose credit for the particular assignment.
- Worst case scenario: receive an F for the course and will be reported to Student Affairs as a cheater, which may place your academic standing and financial aid in question.

I test you for knowledge. Don't test me for patience. ☺