

GEOS 125 Introduction to Environmental Science

Spring Term 2020

Dr. Fred Soster, 216 Julian S&M, 658-4670; email: fsoster@depauw.edu

Office Hours: If you would like to meet with me, sign up for an appointment on the scheduling sheet that is posted each week on my office door. Feel free to stop by anytime, even if you haven't scheduled an appointment.

Class: 8:20-9:50 a.m., TTh, Rm. 223, Julian S&M

Text: Environmental Science, 16th edition by G. Tyler Miller & Scott E. Spoolman, Cengage Learning, 2019, ISBN # 978-1-337-56961-3

Course Outline and Tentative Schedule

<u>Week</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment</u>
1	1/28, 1/30	Introduction	Chapter 1
2	2/4, 2/6	Matter & Energy	Chapter 2
3	2/11, 2/13	Ecosystems	Chapter 3
4	2/18, 2/20	Biodiversity & Evolution	Chapter 4
EXAM I – Thursday, February 20			
5	2/25, 2/27	Species Interactions	Chapter 5
6	3/3, 3/5	Biomes	Chapter 7
7	3/10, 3/12	Environmental Conservation: Species	Chapter 8
8	3/17, 3/19	Environmental Conservation: Ecosystems	Chapter 9
EXAM II – Thursday, March 19			
Spring Break – Saturday, March 21 through Sunday, March 29			
9	3/31, 4/2	Human Populations	Chapter 6
10	4/7, 4/9	Food and Agriculture	Chapter 10
11	4/14, 4/16	Water Resources and Water Pollution	Chapter 11
12	4/21, 4/23	Energy Resources	Chapter 13
EXAM III – Thursday, April 23			
13	4/28, 4/30	Energy Resources	Chapter 13
14	5/5, 5/7	Air Pollution & Climate Change	Chapter 15
FINAL EXAM (comprehensive) – Saturday, May 9, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.			

Course Goals

1. Provide a scientific understanding of the major environmental issues facing human society today.
2. Help you develop critical thinking skills that will enable you to evaluate claims and arguments advanced by environmental "experts."
3. Learn about the scientific method and what science can and cannot do.

4. Encourage you to think about environmental issues and enter into discussions about possible solutions.
5. Help you recognize the environmental impact of your daily activities and make wise, informed decisions about life style activities that impact the environment.

Grading

Exam I	20%
Exam II	20%
Exam III	20%
Final Exam	30%
Class Participation	10%

A \geq 90%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F < 60%

Class Policies

1. It is the policy and practice of DePauw University to provide reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. Written notification from Student Accessibility Services is required. If you are eligible to receive an accommodation and would like to request it for this course, please contact Student Accessibility Services. Allow one week advance notice to ensure enough time for reasonable accommodations to be made. Otherwise, it is not guaranteed that the accommodation can be provided on a timely basis. Accommodations are not retroactive. Students who have questions about Student Accessibility Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability (psychiatric, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical, medical, etc.) are invited to contact Student Accessibility Services for a confidential discussion. Student Accessibility Services is located in Union Building Suite 208 and can be reached by phone at 765-658-6267.
2. Regular and punctual attendance is expected. Poor attendance and preparation for class will result in refusal on my part to give you reasonable attention and guidance in make-up work. I realize that an occasional absence is necessary, particularly if you are sick. You also may need to miss class because of an extracurricular activity that contributes to your overall education, career objective, or well-being (e.g., field trip for another class, job interview, professional conference, workshop participation, doctor appointment, student-athlete participating in a sporting event). Send me an e-mail message either before or soon after you miss class so that I know the reason for your absence. See the Student Handbook (p. 103) for the University policy on attendance:
<https://www.depauw.edu/files/resources/student-handbook-aug-14-2019.pdf>
3. Computer use during class is not allowed. Put it away. Cell phone use during class for any reason other than class participation also is not allowed. Set your cell phone to silent and leave it on the table in front of you until you are instructed to use it. Place it back on the table when we are finished. There may be rare instances where you might need to use your phone during class (e.g., illness in the family; potential employer). Alert me before class starts that you are expecting an important call and you may leave class when you need to use your phone.
4. Food is not allowed in the classroom; however, you may bring a beverage to class. Please clean up the table and your seating area after class so that the area is clean for the next person to use the seat.
5. Remain in your seat throughout the class session. Use the restroom before you come to class, and avoid moving about the classroom during class. In rare instances, you may need to visit the restroom during class. Please feel free to do so without asking, but don't make it a daily habit.

6. Make-up examinations are normally not given; however, I will consider requests for make-up exams on a case-by-case basis. Students who have legitimate conflicts (e.g., travel for athletic events or other extracurricular activities) should consult with me well in advance.
7. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty by another student (e.g., allowing another student to copy your answers on a test), and plagiarism. Use of any electronic device other than a calculator during exams is not permitted and is automatically considered cheating. All students should read and understand DePauw University's Academic Integrity Policy, which may be found in the student handbook (p. 97):

<https://www.depauw.edu/files/resources/student-handbook-aug-14-2019.pdf>

Violations will be handled in accordance with established University procedures as described in the Academic Integrity Policy.

If you feel lost or frustrated with any aspect of this course, please talk to me so that we can work together to resolve your difficulties.