**ENVS 4101 – Environmental Science Seminar**

## Special Notes

1. This course is designed for students majoring or minoring in Environmental Science or Environmental Studies. If you are not majoring or minoring in these areas, do not take this course.

2. If you are an ENVS or ENST major or minor, you should only be taking this course if you are in your last three semesters of your degree program. If this does not apply to you, you must get approval to take the course from the dean of the School of Math and Sciences, with concurrence from the course instructor.

3. Although this is a one credit hour course, you will be expected to fully engage in posted assignments, readings, and participate in virtual class discussions using the Collaborate tool within Bb as instructed by your professor. Failure to do so may result in grade reductions.

4. If you have questions about the applicability of this course to your degree plan, or if you are uncertain about whether you meet the pre-requisites for this course, you should contact the instructor by email using the address below:

Dr. Herb Grover; [Herbert.grover@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:Herbert.grover@wayland.wbu.edu)

**Course Syllabus:**

**Wayland Baptist University**

**WBUonline**

**School of Mathematics and Sciences**

## WAYLAND MISSION STATEMENT:

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

## Course:

ENVS 4101 – VC01 - Environmental Science Seminar

## Term:

Fall Session 1 - 2020

Instructor:Dr. Herb Grover

Phone: 806-292-2082 (email or text preferred; cell reception sometimes unavailable)

Office:Online from home location

Office Hours:Online

Email:[herbert.grover@wayland.wbu.edu](mailto:herbert.grover@wayland.wbu.edu)

## Catalog Description:

Capstone seminar course for majors/minors in environmental science and environmental studies. Key topics include advanced readings in human population growth; energy production and use; food production and distribution; air, water, and soil pollution and control; environmental economics; environmental ethics; and sustainability and stewardship.

## Prerequisite:

None, but students are expected to be in their last three semesters of study toward a major or minor in environmental science or environmental studies.

## Required Materials:

Readings: assigned readings from various sources.

## Course website:

A course website has been established on WBU’s Blackboard server. Each student is REQUIRED to establish an active account for this website and to log on to Bb regularly for posted lecture notes, messages, assignments, handouts, and quizzes.

## Course Outcome Competencies:

As a capstone seminar course, students will gain a more advanced understanding of the following topics through assigned readings, written essays, and participation in various discussion boards and other interactive exercises.

1. causes and consequences of human population growth;

2. patterns in energy production and use;

3. patterns in food production and distribution;

4. pollution of water, air, and soil;

5. environmental ethics from the Christian perspective; and

6. principles and practices contributing to sustainable use of natural resources.

## Attendance/ Class Participation Policy:

In accordance with university policy, attendance in this course will be documented through a student’s active engagement in weekly assignments, quizzes, or similar course elements requiring deliverables or direct communication between the student and the instructor through the course black board site. Instructions for completing these assignments will be posted by the instructor prior to or at the beginning of each week of the class. Failure to attend or participate in this class may result in administrative withdrawal from the course or grade reductions. Failure to meet posted deadlines will result in a grade of zero or point reductions for the assignments affected.

## Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

## Disability Statement:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university.  The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765.  Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations. Students should inform the instructor of existing disabilities the first class meeting.

## Course Requirements:

Students will be required to access readings, videos, or podcasts posted on BB or through various internet sources. Assignments may require participation in various interactive tools including discussion boards, journals, on-line quizzes or exams, written assignments, and student-produced video or audio files. Access to a reliable and reasonably fast internet connection is essential to successful participation in this course.

## Course Communication policy:

Wayland’s email address is the official method of communication between instructors and students taking courses through Wayland Baptist University. Students are REQUIRED to establish and activate their Wayland email account. Instructors reserve the right to deny email from other sources

## Grading:

Students will be evaluated through performance on quizzes, exams, and/or assignments designed to assess effective understanding of assigned readings and constructive participation in interactive activities (e.g., discussion boards). Point values and categories of quizzes, exams, and assignments will be identified when they are assigned.

Final grades for the course will be assigned on the basis of the proportion of points earned from the total number of points available across all quizzes, exams, and assignments. Final letter grades will be assigned as follows: A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; and F = 59% or less.

**Exam and assignment deadlines will be adhered to! Any variance from posted deadlines must be arranged IN ADVANCE! Students requesting extensions must communicate with the instructor in advance and provide verification of the extenuating circumstances leading to the request. Assignments or quizzes submitted after posted deadlines will be assigned a grade of zero unless late submittals are approved by the instructor.**

## Academic Standards:

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

## Tentative Class Schedule:

The attached class schedule is subject to modification by the instructor. Changes will be announced on Bb to give students sufficient opportunity to respond accordingly.

| **Week** | **Topic** | **Readings** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Week 1 | Human Population Growth | TBA |
| Week 2 | Energy Production | TBA |
| Week 3 | Food Production | TBA |
| Week 4 | Plastic Pollution | TBA |
| Week 5 | Climate Change | TBA |
| Week 6 | Climate Change | TBA |
| Week 7 | Sustainability | TBA |
| Week 8 | Christian Environmental Stewardship | TBA |