**Course Syllabus**

**Wayland Baptist University**

**Virtual Campus**

**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 3301 – VC01 – Environmental Science**

**Term: Summer 2017**

**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:** Study of human interactions with the environment focusing on human population growth, renewable resource usage, energy usage, industrial pollution and waste minimization, sustainable technologies.

**Prerequisite:** none

**Required Materials:**

Wright, R. 2016. *Environmental Science 13th edition*. Prentice Hall (this is the most current edition of the text; previous editions are out-of-date)

**Course website:**  A course website has been established on WBU’s Blackboard (Bb) 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:**

By completion of this course, students will demonstrate an understanding of:

1. principles of and patterns in human population growth

2. interactions between humans and the hydrologic cycle

3. principles of soil fertility and food production

4. effects of human activities on biodiversity and ways to mitigate those effects

5. renewable and non-renewable sources of energy used by human societies

6. patterns in industrial pollution and mitigation measures to prevent pollution

7. principles and implications of global climate change

**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 email 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**: Your course grade will be determined based on the number of points you earn on lecture exams, chapter quizzes, research paper or field assignment, and through class participation, as described below.

*Exams*: Lecture exam grades will be worth 60% of your final grade. Lecture exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, T/F, matching, short answer and essay questions as appropriate for the material. In accordance with the School of Math and Sciences policy, there will be at least ONE major PROCTORED lecture exam. Information regarding options for face-to-face or remote proctoring services may be obtained from Virtual Campus.

*Quizzes:* There will be on-line quizzes accompanying each chapter of material. The overall quiz average will count as one lecture exam grade.

*Research Paper, Making It Personal Assignments, and Field Assignments*: Each student will develop a Blog/Discussion Board field study project, or satisfy an alternative option as described in posted instructions. There will also be “Making It Personal” assignments accompanying many topics that will require the student to examine the topic in greater detail. These assignments will be worth 30% of your final grade.

*Class Participation:* Class participation will contribute 10% to your final grade. This grade will be based on exercises posted on Bb; reflective essays or similar assignments; timely completion of quizzes or submittal of assignments; and on participation in discussion board or blogging activities and other assignments as appropriate. Some Making It Personal assignments may apply to class participation grades.

*Final Grades*: 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.**

**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. Actual exam dates may change. These changes will be posted on Black Board to give students sufficient opportunity to adjust their schedules accordingly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ENVS 3301 - Environmental Science**  **Tentative Course Schedule Summer 2015 Term** | | |
| **Week** | **Topic** | **Chapter Readings** |
|  |  |  |
| **1** | **Introduction & Public Policy Issues** | **1 & 2** |
|  |  |  |
| **2** | **Needs of Life & Populations/Communities** | **3 & 4** |
|  |  |  |
| **3** | **Ecosystems & Biodiversity** | **5 & 6** |
|  |  |  |
| **4** | **Ecosystem Value & Human Populations** | **7 & 8** |
|  |  |  |
| **5** | **Population Development & Hydrologic Cycle** | **9 & 10** |
|  |  |  |
| **6** | **Soils & Food** | **11 & 12** |
|  |  |  |
| **7** | **Energy - Fossil Fuels & Nuclear** | **14 & 15** |
|  |  |  |
| **8** | **Renewable Energy & Human Health** | **16 & 17** |
|  |  |  |
| **9** | **Climate Change and Air Pollution** | **18 & 19** |
|  |  |  |
| **10** | **Water Pollution, Solid Wastes, & Hazardous Wastes** | **20, 21, 22** |
|  |  |  |
| **11** | **Stewardship & Sustainability** | **23** |

**\* NOTE 1: Lecture and exam schedules are subject to change (Changes in schedules**

**Will be posted on Blackboard.)**

**\*\*NOTE 2: Reading assignments may include portions of certain chapters.**

**See Black Board announcements for specific reading assignments.**