

NR 7- Conservation of Natural Resources

Instructor: Rob Cannell

Office: AG 5, Phone: 559-637-2507

Office Hours: T-Th 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

However, you may email me anytime (including weekends) if you have questions.

Email: robert.cannell@reedleycollege.edu **Web Site - Blackboard**

Course Objectives

This course is an introduction to the conservation of all natural resources and includes the relationships of man to the ecosystem. An emphasis is placed on the practical aspects of conservation and Environmental Science as it relates to every day living. The social and economic aspects of conservation will also be discussed in this class. Each of the major natural resources such as water, energy, forestry, air, man, agriculture, wildlife and soils will be covered.

Text Book

Principles of Environmental Science-Inquiry and Applications. 4th edition by Cunningham & Cunningham, McGraw-Hill. **ISBN: 987-0-07-305089-8.** The text is **required** and students will benefit greatly from reading the assigned chapters before looking over the notes.

Grading Policy:

The success of any class depends on the presence and active participation of each student; therefore, you are expected to access Blackboard often. **Your participation and frequency of access will be considered when assigning your final grade.** Individual exam grades may be curved and final grades will be assigned based on a straight percentage system according to the following scale:

<u>Course Grade</u>	<u>Cumulative Percent</u>	<u>Breakdown of Grades</u>	<u>Points</u>
A	90-100	Exams (2 @ 80pts.)	160
B	80-89	Syllabus Quiz	10
C	70-79	Final Exam	100
D	60-69	Responses (15 @ 20 pts each)	300
F	< 59	Total 570	

Exams

Exams 1 and 2 will consist of 40 randomly selected, multiple-choice questions and **they will be available only on the days of the week indicated in the schedule below**. In other words, you must take exam 1 between Monday and Wednesday of week 5. **Refer to the syllabus for the exact dates**. Exam questions will be approximately 70% from the slides/notes and 30% from the textbook. You can use your notes and textbook during the exam but since your test will be timed (60 minutes), you MUST study all materials before attempting the exam. **A penalty of 1 point for each minute over the time limit will be assessed if you take longer than 60 minutes to complete the exam**. You will only be allowed to take an exam one time. Exams will be available between 6am and 11:55pm on the scheduled days.

The final exam will consist of 50 questions worth 2 points each and will be available only on the days listed in the syllabus. You will have 120 minutes to complete the final exam.

Responses to Posted Questions

I will post 15 discussion topics (**located in the "Discussions" section**) during the semester that are related to materials covered in the course and or environmental issues of importance. A new topic will be posted each week (usually) and you must post a response by the end of that week to receive full credit. Responses posted later than the due date will only receive partial credit. Responses can include general comments or rebuttals, you may ask additional questions, or you may post a response to another students' comments. If responding to another student's comments, please feel free to express your thoughts but **DO NOT WRITE PERSONAL ATTACKS** directed at another student's comments. Spelling and grammar are important and all responses should be well thought out and considerate of others views. Each response must be at least 200-300 words in length (This paragraph is about 250 words for reference) and **each response will be worth 20 points**. **IF EACH RESPONSE IS WELL WRITTEN AND SUPPORTED BY FACTS OR EVIDENCE YOU WILL RECEIVE FULL CREDIT**. Points will be deducted for poor grammar, lack of facts or evidence, or unnecessarily bashing other student's comments. Unless otherwise indicated, your response will be due by the Sunday of the week the topic was posted. Finally, the discussion portion of the class is meant to somewhat replace the lack of in-class contact that is impossible with a web course so your thoughtful participation is critical to the success of this course.

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic dishonesty is the willful and intentional fraud and deception for the purpose of improving a grade or obtaining course credit, and includes all student behavior intended to gain or provide unearned academic advantage by fraudulent and/or deceptive means. The student has the full responsibility for the content and integrity of all academic work

submitted. Ignorance of a rule does not constitute a basis for waiving the rule or the consequences of that rule. Students unclear about a specific situation should ask their instructor, who will explain what is and is not acceptable in their classes. Violation of this policy will result in appropriate disciplinary action." Examples of such unauthorized behavior include but are not limited to: taking information, providing information, and plagiarism.

Other examples of cheating are defined as:

1. Receiving aid during an exam from anyone other than the instructor.
2. Using unauthorized materials during exam.
3. Giving unauthorized aid to a student taking an exam.

*** The penalty for cheating is an "F" on that exam.

Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S)

If you feel that you will need academic accommodations in this class due to limits imposed by a disability then contact the DSP&S Office at (638 -3641 ext.3332) to make the necessary arrangements. It is the student's responsibility to provide documentation that verifies the disability and the type of limitations that may result.

Other Useful Information about this Internet Course

Since this course does not meet in the formal setting of a classroom, it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that each student takes this course seriously. You, THE STUDENT, are responsible for reading the text book, studying the online materials, posting responses to questions, and completing exams on time, in order to receive a grade for this course. If at any time you have a question, it is your responsibility to contact me via email or phone to clear up any problems.

To view the notes and other materials for this course, you will need to download a copy of **ACROBAT READER** from the adobe website. You will know whether or not Adobe Reader is already on your computer by trying to open a set of notes. If they open, you have ADOBE, if not you will need to **download a free copy**.

You should have not problem accessing and downloading it onto your computer. Once you have accessed the NR 7 course in Blackboard, it will be very important that you spend some time navigating the course to familiarize yourself with the materials available and their location. In addition to this syllabus, the Course Content area contains a comprehensive set of PowerPoint presentations and notes, the Assessment link where you will find EXAMS and the Syllabus Quiz, the Discussion Room, and other useful links to HELP with Blackboard.

Remember, the successful completion of this course is dependant upon you being responsible. *You should log onto Blackboard often to check your email, read responses to issues, and review the syllabus for important dates.* If any questions arise regarding any component of this course you must contact the instructor for help. I will not necessarily contact any student directly to "See how things are going". Treat this course like any other that you might take at College and you will get the grade that you deserve based on the effort you put into the course.

*Last day to drop a Spring 2007 Class (letter grades assigned after this date) March 9th 2007

Tentative Course Schedule		
DATE	TOPIC	READING ASSIGNMENT
Week1 - 1/8	Introduction	Chpt 1
Week2 - 1/15	Principles of Ecology	Chpt 2
Week3 - 1/22	Populations/Communities/Interactions	Chpt 3
Week4 - 1/29	Biomes/Biodiversity	Chpt 5
Week5 - 2/5	EXAM 1 (2/12-13-14) Ch 1,2,3,5 Environmental Conservation/Forestry Rangelands/Parks & Preserves	Chpt 6
Week6 - 2/12	Parks & Preserves/Wilderness Wildlife	Chpt 6
Week7 - 2/19	Food and Agriculture Soils and Soil conservation	Chpt 7
Week8 - 3/5	Pesticides Genetic engineering	Chpt 7
Week9 - 3/12	Environmental Health Air: Climate and Pollution	Chpt 8 Chpt 9
Week10 - 3/19	EXAM 2 (3/19-20-21) Ch 6,7,8,9) Water: Resources and Pollution	Chpt 10

Week11 - 3/26	Solid and Hazardous Waste	Chpt 13
Week12 - 4/2	Energy Resources - Spring Break	Chpt 12
Week13 - 4/9	Energy Resources Environmental Science and Policy	Chpt 15
Week14 - 4/16	Environmental Science and Policy	
Week15 - 4/23	Human Populations	Chpt 4
Week16 - 4/30	People in Conservation	Notes
Week17 - 5/7	REVIEW TIME	
Week18	FINAL EXAM (5/14-15-16) Ch 10,13,12,15,4	