

COURSE SYLLABUS
COURSE NUMBER/DESIGNATION/SECTION: Biology 137
COURSE TITLE: Environmental Science
CREDIT HOURS: Three
SEMESTER, YEAR: Fall, 2007

Location of Class Meeting

1T – Lee Drain Building, Room 215
2T – Lee Drain Building, Room 214
5M– Lee Drain Building, Room 213

Class Meeting Times: See Above

Instructor: Dr. James R. DeShaw, Professor

Office Location: Lee Drain Building, Room 122

Instructor Contact Information

Office Phone: 936-294-1020
Fax Number: 936-294-3940
Email Address: bio_jrd@shsu.edu

Office Hours

Monday	10:00 - 11:15 a.m.
Tuesday	12:50 - 02:00 p.m.
Wednesday	10:00 - 12:00 noon
Thursday	03:30 - 04:00 p.m.
Friday	11:00 - 12:00 noon

Course Description: BIO 137 Environmental Science. A general course designed to cover all areas related to contemporary ecological problems Topics include air, water, and soil pollution, radiation, limnology, climate, pesticides, wastes, and land conservation. Fall, Spring, Credit 3.

Course Objectives: The course objectives include:

1. Present students with a broad-based course that introduces them to the principles and concepts of Environmental Science from a biological point of view.
2. Challenge students to investigate contemporary ecological and environmental situations from different viewpoints.
3. Provide a basic science course that meets the science requirements of the baccalaureate degrees.

Required Textbook(s) and/or Reference(s): Living in the Environment: Principles, Connections, and Solutions, 15th Edition, G. Tyler Miller, Jr.

Required Supplies: Scantron 882-E; No. 2 lead pencil for exams.

Optional Texts, References or Supplies: None.

Attendance Policy: Regular and punctual class attendance is expected of each student. To do well, you must be an equal and active participant in your education, therefore, it is your responsibility to attend class. Testing material will be based on class lecture and from the textbook. To do well on tests, you must attend lecture. A seating chart will be made out and attendance will be taken regularly (see the University Catalogue for details).

If you are unable to come to class due to illness or unexpected circumstances, it is your responsibility to obtain the class notes and any assignments. You may contact me in my office if you have specific questions about a lecture; however, I will not re-lecture to students who have missed class.

Excessive absences (3) may influence the student's final grade for the course. This may amount to one letter grade for students on the border line.

Assignments: A general reading assignment from the textbook prior to lecture discussions. No attempt will be made to provide specific page reading assignments during the semester. It is the student's responsibility to stay abreast of course progress using the course outline as a guide.

Exams: Four lecture exams (three during the semester, plus the final exam) will cover each section of the lecture material presented and will not be comprehensive. Each exam will be announced IN CLASS 7 days in advance and will consist of up to 100 multiple choice questions taken from the reading and lecture materials. A few short answer questions might be part of same exams.

No make up exams will be given without notification prior to the exam by the student and approval from the instructor. The final exam will be similar to the first three exams. Final exam will be as scheduled by the University.

Required Textbook(s) and/or Reference(s): Living in the Environment: Principles, Connections and Solutions, 12th Edition, G. Tyler Miller, Jr.

Grading Plan: Four lecture exams will be averaged to determine your final grade. Your final letter grade will be determined using the following scheme:

A	90 - 100.00%
B	80 - 89.00%
C	70 - 79.90%
D	60 - 69.90%
F	below 60.00%

Student Syllabus Guidelines: You may find online a more detailed description of the following policies. These guidelines will also provide you with a link to the specific university policy or procedure:

<http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/>

Academic Dishonesty: Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. See *Student Syllabus Guidelines*.

Classroom Rules of Conduct: Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. Students are to treat faculty and students with respect. Students are to turn off all cell phones while in the classroom. Under no circumstances are cell phones or any electronic devices to be used or seen during times of examination. Students may tape record lectures provided they do not disturb other students in the process.

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days: Students are allowed to miss class and other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Students remain responsible for all work. See *Student Syllabus Guidelines*.

Student with Disabilities Policy: It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should visit with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Counseling Center. See *Student Syllabus Guidelines*.

Visitors in the Classroom: Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

Laboratories, Studios, and Individual Instruction: A parallel laboratory, BIO 117, accompanies BIO 137. It is strongly recommended that each student enroll in a laboratory section.

Laboratory and Studio Sections: Not applicable.

Individual Instruction: Tutors may be used by students. In the event a tutor is needed, the instructor will assist in finding a suitable advanced student or graduate student. Any cost of the tutor will be the responsibility of the student requesting the tutor.

Course Outline: TEXT: Living in the Environment, Principles, Connections, and Solutions, 15th Edition, G. Tyler Miller, J r.

Exams	Topic	Chapter
	Environmental Problems, Their Causes, and Sustainability	1
	Science, Systems, Matter, and Energy	2
	Ecosystems: What Are They and How Do They Work?	3
	Evolution and Biodiversity	4
	Climate and Terrestrial Biodiversity	5
	Aquatic Biodiversity	6
	Community Ecology	7
EXAM 1		
	Population Ecology	8
	Applying Population Ecology: The Human Population	9
	Sustaining Terrestrial Biodiversity: The Ecosystem Approach	10
	Sustaining Biodiversity: The Species Approach	11
	Sustaining Aquatic Biodiversity	12
EXAM 2		
	Food, Soil Conservation, and Pest Management	13
	Water	14
	Geology and Nonrenewable Mineral Resources	15
	Nonrenewable Energy Resources	16
	Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy	17
EXAM 3		
	Environmental Hazards and Human Health	18
	Air Pollution	19
	Climate Change and Ozone Loss	20
	Water Pollution	21

Solid and Hazardous Waste	22
Sustainable Cities	23
Economics, Environment, and Sustainability	24
Politics, Environment, and Sustainability	25
Environmental Worldviews, Ethics, and Sustainability	26

FINAL EXAM

Study Tips: It is generally recommended that a student spend from two to three hours studying for each hour spent in lecture. The use of resources connected with brookscole.com and the textbook CD.ROM entitled "Interactive Concepts in Environmental Science," Version 1.0, can be very helpful.

Instructor Evaluations: Students may be asked to complete a course/instructor evaluation form toward the end of the semester.