Midland College
Syllabus
2007 - 08
GEOL 1405
Environmental Science
4 Semester Credit Hours
(3 Lecture/3 Lab)

Course Description: The study of environmental science is interdisciplinary. During the semester, the student will be presented with scientific information concerning the environment and the historical, social, political, and economic ramifications of environmental conflict. The course is suitable as an elective course in a science curriculum or as a required lab science for someone who is not majoring in science.


Lab: No suitable lab manual is as yet available for this course and lab materials will be appropriately selected and provided as handouts by your lab instructor.

Course Goals/Objectives: The text presents its' material to students via five (5) separate but interrelated "Parts":
1. Environmental Interrelationships / Ethics;
2. Ecological Principles and their Application;
3. Energy; patterns of consumption
4. Human Influences on Ecosystems; and
5. Resource Management. The successful student [and therefore the course objective(s)] will
1] be capable of describing the natural processes, both physical and biological, that operate in the natural world;
2] understand the role that technology plays in society and the physical world; and
3] be capable of describing certain remedies for problems caused by human occupation of our world.

Student Contributions, and Class Policies: Students are expected to:
1. Spend at least 1 hour per week for each classroom hour in preparation for class.

2. Make-up work is considered the ultimate responsibility of the student. Attendance is critical in this class and MC policies may be invoked at the discretion of the instructor: that is, three consecutive classroom hours of unexcused absences or a total of six unexcused classroom hours reported to the registrar may result in an automatic grade of "W".
3. Make-up exams will only be given to those students who have valid excuses and only within one-week's time of the originally scheduled exam. Make-up exams will be given during the regular class meeting times. Make-up exams if permitted beyond the one-week grace period will loose one letter grade as a late penalty. No grades will be dropped.

4. Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject.

**Evaluation of Students:**

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 55% from Lecture Exams
- 25% from Lab Assignments
- 15% Final Exam *
- 5% Attendance and participation

* A student with a 90(+) grade average may be excused from taking the final exam if agreed upon with the instructor prior to the final exam date. Grades will be determined ....with no exceptions...using the traditional grading ranges as follows: A=90-100 ; B=80-89 ; C=70-79 ; D=60-69 ; F= below 60.

**Course Schedule:**

See Attached Schedule.

**Intellectual Competencies:**

1. Reading - Understanding the material incorporated in the text used in this course will require the student to analyze and interpret various geological concepts.

2. Listening - The primary teaching methods used in this course are discussion and lecture. Understanding the oral presentation of material will require the student to analyze and interpret various geological concepts.

3. Critical Thinking - Critical thinking, as exemplified by problem solving, is inherent in the study of any geological discipline. Geological problems will be considered, discussed, and analyzed in this course.

**ADA Statement:**

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible. These conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations.
Objectives for Natural Sciences:

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Competencies:

1. To understand and apply method and appropriate technology to the study of the natural sciences.
2. To recognize scientific and quantitative methods and the differences between these approaches and the other methods of inquiry and to communicate findings, analyses, and interpretation both orally and in writing.
3. To demonstrate knowledge of the major issues and problems facing modern science, including issues that touch upon ethics, values, and public policies.
4. To demonstrate knowledge of the interdependence of science and technology and their influence on, and contribution to, modern culture.

Instructor Information:

Instructor: Joan Gawloski
Office: 147B SF
Phone: 685-4635
E-mail:
Office Hours: 8:00 - 9:30 TR
Division Dean: Dr. Margaret Wade, 125 SF, 685-4615
Division Secretary: Ms. Norma Duran, 124 SF, 685-4612
Ms. Brenda Smith, 124 SF, 685-6413