

Midland College Syllabus

2019-2020

BIOL 2306 Lecture (Online)

Environmental Science Lecture

3 Semester Credit Hour

(3 Lecture)

Core Curriculum Course

x

Instructor Information:

Instructor: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Phone: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Office Hours: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Office: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Email: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Notice:

Students MUST actively participate by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not actively participate in an academically-related activity may be reported as never attended and dropped from the course.

Course Description:

This course is devoted to the issues associated with human interactions with the environment. Current topics will be discussed such as environment ethics (including economic growth versus ecosystem preservation), effects of urbanization on the natural environment, issues of mining and burning fossil fuels, and a survey of energy alternatives. Additionally, a foundation of scientific principals will be provided which include energy flow through ecosystems, population and community-level species interactions, biogeochemical cycles, and the ecological dynamics in air, land and aquatic systems. Finally, the issues that drive the global climate change controversy will be discussed. Corequisite: BIOL 2106. Prerequisite: TSI complete in Reading and MATH.

Core Objectives:

This course fulfills one hour of the Life and Physical Science requirement in the Midland College **Core Curriculum**. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#) for any questions about the core. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Critical thinking skills –Students will demonstrate critical thinking by examining and solving applied environmental issues.

Communication skills – Students will demonstrate communication skills in written, oral, and/or visual form within the classroom setting through instructor posed questions, collaborative peer assignments, and exams.

Empirical and Quantitative skills – Students will demonstrate empirical and quantitative skills by analyzing applied environmental science concepts via course assignments, discussions, and exams.

Teamwork – Students will demonstrate teamwork skills by functioning as collaborative and cooperative small groups to answer instructor posed questions and/or complete assignments.

Text, References and Supplies:

Lecture Text: Withgott, Jay, Matt Laposata, Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, 6th ed., Pearson Education, Limited. ISBN: 9780321897428

Computer: Access to a working computer throughout the course with the ability to access the internet and Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student will

1. Use Canvas to access and complete course work.
2. Identify terminology associated with environmental science.
3. Compare concepts of environmental ethics with regards to achieving environmental and economic sustainability.
4. Describe the effects of human population growth on natural and urban environments.
5. Identify the issues associated with the mining and burning of fossil fuels, and the options provided by energy alternatives.
6. Describe scientific principals associated with energy flow through ecosystems, population and community-level species interactions and biogeochemical cycles.
7. Identify concepts of ecology and resources encountered in air, land and aquatic systems.
8. Evaluate the issues that drive the global climate change controversy.

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

Students will be expected to comply with the policies outlined in the Midland College student handbook. Instructor policies concerning academic behavior are consistent with the policies in the student handbook.

Attendance Policy:

It is the responsibility of the students to know the policies and procedures associated with absences. These policies are set by instructors and can be found on the instructor's handout. Excused absences may include, but are not limited to, illness, severe weather, and death in the family. Instructors will determine whether or not an absence is excused. Please visit the Midland College catalog

Students will be evaluated based on the results of examinations, as well as Canvas-based quizzes, discussions and writing assignments given throughout the semester. Your lecture instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to the tentative dates and content for each assignment. Students are expected to complete each assignment. Your instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to make-up

procedures for missed exams and any exemption procedures if they apply (See Instructor Handout).

Withdrawal Policy:

Students who have enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later are permitted to drop no more than six courses during the entire undergraduate career. This limit includes all transfer work taken at a Texas institution of higher education and to second baccalaureate degrees. This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 (Texas Education Code 51.907). Any course that a student drops after Census Day is counted toward the six-course limit if "(1) the student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student's transcript indicates or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and (3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution." Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

Scholastic Dishonesty:

Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

Evaluation of Students:

Course Grade will be determined according to the following.

Lecture: 100% of total course grade (BIOL 2306), may be composed of the following

Exams:	75% - 100%
On-line Quizzes/Discussions/Writing Assignments:	0 - 25%

Grade Range (90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-70%=C, 60-69%=D, less than 60%=F)

Course Schedule:

This class meets for 3 lecture hours per week. For a tentative schedule of the class meetings please refer to the schedule distributed to each student on the first class meeting (See Instructor Handout).

ADA Statement:

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must place documentation on file with the Counselor/Disability Specialist. Students with disabilities should notify Midland College prior to the beginning of each semester. Student Services will provide each student with a letter outlining any reasonable accommodations. The student must present the letter to the instructor at the beginning of the semester.

Math/Science Division Information:

Division Dean: Dr. Miranda Poage 125 AHSF 432-685-4615
Department Chair: TBA
Division Secretary: Ms. Sarah Anderson 124 AHSF 432-685-4896
Division Clerk: Ms. Sandra Thompson 124 AHSF 432-685-6404

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