

Course Name	Introduction to Environmental Science
Course Number	ENV200
Course Instructor	Rania Masri, PhD
Course Coordinator	Ahmad Hourri, PHD
Class Time and Location	MWF 4.00 – 4.50 pm
Credits and Contact Hours	3 credits, 45 hours
Semester	Fall 2017

ENV 200

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION

An Introduction to the environmental problems and challenges facing mankind. Global problems will be directly related to issues facing the regional and local environment. The course covers environmental problems and their causes, ecosystems and how they work, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, species extinction, air, water and soil pollution, ozone depletion, solid waste disposal, renewable energy technologies, and applications to alleviate environmental problems. Case studies will be presented and potential solutions will be emphasized. The course also includes field trips.

COURSE PREREQUISITE/COREQUISITE

None

INSTRUCTOR

Name: Rania Masri

Email: rania.z.masri@gmail.com

Course Page: greenresistance.wordpress.com/env200

Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. have a set of well-established scientific principles and concepts that form the knowledge basis for an appropriate interaction with the natural environment
2. understand the harmful role man plays in shaping the environment.
3. be able to identify the major environmental concerns of our world today and come up with potential solutions within financial and technological constraints.
4. be able to relate better to the status of environmental protection in Lebanon and acquire practical experience by becoming familiar with places of special environmental interest in the country.
5. have a heightened sense of ethics and morality in dealing with nature, or with people of other cultures and religions.

COURSE GRADING AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Exam 1	20%
2. Exam 2	20%
3. Final	33%
4. Short assignments	10%
5. Individually-chosen research/project	17%

TEXTBOOK AND REFERENCES

Living in the Environment: Principles, Connections and Solutions. Tyler Miller G. latest edition, Brooks/Cole.

MAJOR TOPICS COVERED IN THE COURSE AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Topics

- Introduction to Environmental systems
- Ecology and sustainability
- Sustaining Biodiversity
- Sustaining Key resources
- Sustaining Environmental Quality
- Sustaining Human Societies

Schedule

1. Chapter 1: Sustaining Wild Species
2. Chapter 2: Sustaining Terrestrial Biodiversity
Exam I
3. Chapter 3: Risk, Toxicology and Human Health
4. Chapter 4: Air and Air Pollution
5. Chapter 5: Climate Change and Ozone Loss
Exam II
6. Chapter 6: Energy Efficiency
7. Chapter 7: Renewable Energy
Final

POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Students caught cheating on an exam receive a grade of zero on the exam in their first cheating attempt and receive a warning. Students caught cheating for the second time will receive a grade of “F” in the course and another warning. Plagiarism on assignments and project work is a serious offense. If plagiarism is detected, a student will be subject to penalty, similar to the cheating case, which ranges from receiving a zero on the assignment concerned to an “F” in the course in addition to a warning.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. Students are expected to attend all classes.
2. For valid reasons, students may miss classes for a maximum that is equivalent to two regular semester weeks (or one summer week).
3. When exceeding the maximum number of absences, it is the instructor’s prerogative to ask the concerned student to stop attending and drop the course. In this case, it is the student’s responsibility to drop the course; otherwise a grade of “F” or “NP” will be given.
4. In exceptional justified cases (long illness, etc...), where absences exceed the maximum, the student has to petition to the department Chair to be allowed to stay in the course.



5. Students are held responsible for all the material presented in the classroom, even during their absence

PHONE USE POLICY

According to the Student Code of Conduct:

2.1.17. Using cellular phones and other devices in classrooms, laboratories, or studios **during classes** or examinations without the permission of the course instructor.

The instructor has the right to report your name to the Dean of Students for the mere fact you are touching it (during lecture or exam) regardless of the reason.

Regarding touching your phone, it is worth noting that:

- 1) Instructors do not need to bother themselves with the hassle of providing evidence. The fact that the **phone is on the seat**, it's an immediate **"F"** on the exam. The phone must not be on the desk, seat, or in the student's hand, **period**. Instructors/proctors cannot and should not guess why it's there or why the student is touching the phone, be it for checking the time out, finding out who called, or reading a message.
- 2) Although the instructor/proctor can't take the student's phone as there could be personal photos or material since it's the student property, this property cannot be touched during class or exam time, according to the Student Code of Conduct. Thus,
- 3) **The student is guilty by merely touching the phone.**

"Other devices" in 2.2.1 below, include smart pens & watches!

Save yourself the Warning and don't touch your phone.

Please check the student code of conduct:

http://www.lau.edu.lb/about/governance-policies/policies/student_code_of_conduct.pdf

WITHDRAWAL POLICY

1. A student who withdraws after the Drop/Add period and by the end of the 5th week of classes (10th day of classes for Summer Modules) will obtain a "WI" on that particular course. The student may process such request directly through the Registrar's Office.
2. A student who withdraws from a course between the 6th week and the end of the 10th week of classes (18th day of classes for Summer Modules) will receive either a "WP" or a "WF". "WP" or "WF" will be determined by the instructor based on the achieved academic performance in that course till the time of withdrawal.
3. The "WI" and the "WP" will not count as a Repeat; whereas the "WF" will count as a Repeat.
4. "WI", "WP" and "WF" will not count towards the GPA calculation.
WI is equivalent to Early Withdrawal
WP is equivalent to Withdrawal/Pass

Deadline for withdrawal from courses:

Last day for WI 3/10/ 2017

Last day for WP/WF 7/11/ 2017

It is the student's responsibility to drop the course

ASSESSMENT PLAN FOR THE COURSE

Exam I 6th week
Exam II 10th week
Final As assigned
Assignments: As scheduled
Research/project: Individually scheduled



SPECIAL NOTES

Class participation is welcome especially in presenting problems for discussion and suggesting potential speakers. Students coming more than 10 minutes late may not be allowed into the class or counted as absent.

Students are expected to have a copy of the notes with them in class. This will help them write down notes of items discussed in class that may be an expansion on the material or a different case study than that in the notes. Course notes and some supplementary material will be available on BlackBoard Learn for students' perusal.

Scheduled field trips will constitute part of the course. Missing a fieldtrip will be equivalent to two absences. Due to the nature of fieldtrips, students are expected to obey classroom rules during these trips. Smoking in the bus will not be tolerated but may be allowed during rest stops. Students leaving the group at any point during the fieldtrip do so at their own risk and may be issued a warning. Students may be allowed off the bus on the way back at the discretion of the class instructor.

Use of cellular phones in any form will not be tolerated in class and during exams. Such use may result in student's dismissal from class.

Notes on exams:

There will be no make-ups for missed exams. A missed exam will receive a grade of zero. Exams are multiple-choice questions about all the material discussed in class including videos and visiting speakers. All exam grades count and none will be dropped. Students are required to bring their ID's to exams. Exams missing the student's name will receive 10 grades deduction. Phones should be off and not visible during exams.



Student Code of Conduct - Academic Violations

The following table defines the sanction(s) associated with each violation. In some cases and when the violation is too general, a range of sanctions is set for the pertinent committee to choose from depending on the specifics of each case. As for the second offense, the set sanctions apply regardless whether the violation has taken place in the same course or a different one, within the same semester or not.

Code #	Violation	First Offense	Second Offense
Cheating			
2.2.1	Using material or equipment (including mobile phones, electronic tablets, i-pads, calculators, and other devices) that is not authorized by the instructor in an examination, project, or graded assignment	zero on the deliverable with a warning	F on the course with a warning
2.2.2	Cheating, copying, collaborating with or aiding another Student in a manner not permitted by the instructor on an examination, project, or other graded assignment	zero on the deliverable with a warning	suspension
2.2.3	Distributing or aiding in the distribution of previous exams without authorization of the instructor	double warning – suspension	suspension – expulsion
2.2.4	Stealing, reproducing, or circulating an examination or other graded assignment before it has been administered	suspension	expulsion
2.2.5	Impersonating another Student or allowing another Student to impersonate one’s self during an examination, presentation, or other graded assignment	suspension for both	expulsion
2.2.6	Impersonating an assistant, staff member, or faculty member for the purpose of (a) proctoring examinations without authorization or permission or (b) obtaining confidential information regarding coursework or examinations	suspension – expulsion	expulsion
2.2.7	Receiving, purchasing or selling a project, paper, or any academic document and presenting it as work other than that of the author	suspension – expulsion	expulsion
2.2.8	Submitting identical papers or coursework for credit in more than one class without the permission of the instructor	zero on the deliverable with a warning	F on the course with a warning
Plagiarism and Copyright Violations			
2.2.9	Failing to attribute language or ideas to their original source by not crediting the original author with an appropriate acknowledgement or citation	zero on the deliverable with a warning	F on the course with a warning
2.2.10	Using photocopied or electronic copies of textbooks, compact disks, films, music, online course materials, and other content beyond the fair use policy within University Premises	warning	double warning
2.2.11	Using copyrighted materials, including in written research reports and papers, without obtaining required permission, if any, from the rights holder	warning	double warning
Unauthorized Sale, Distribution, or Use of Course Materials			
2.2.12	Recording any lecture or presentation for personal use or public distribution without the prior consent of the course instructor. This applies to the unauthorized use of any medium including but not limited to mobile phones, electronic tablets, i-pads recorders, films, and other devices	warning	double warning
2.2.13	Selling academic materials by any Student, club, or group. This includes but is not limited to lectures, course recordings, class notes, and previous exams	warning	double warning

