Instructor: Dr. Greg Krukonis  
Email: gkrukonis@angelo.edu  
Office: On-line only Spring 2021

Office Hours: By appointment via Blackboard Collaborate. Normal business hours, but also evenings and weekends. We are in a ‘new normal’! What has not changed is that I will always find a time to meet with you.

**COURSE MEETING TIME**

This class has TBA (to be announced) as a listed meeting time. There is no way I can find a time that we can all get together so we will mostly work asynchronously. But I will also set up multiple times that will allow us to meet via video and visit for a bit.

**Course Description**

An introductory owner’s manual to Earth for nonbiology majors. Includes a survey of contemporary ecological concepts that affect men and women’s life, values, and culture. Topics include the biosphere and ecosystems, adaptation, environmental pollution, waste management, conservation, population growth, and world food problems. Co-registration for Biology 1109 is suggested, but NOT required. Not intended for Biology majors.

**Prerequisite and Co-requisite Courses**

None

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Students are expected to acquire both a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of mankind’s past, present, and future relationships with those naturally occurring biotic and abiotic resources found on this planet. More detailed learning objectives are on the Blackboard course page.

**Course Delivery**

This is an online course that will be delivered via Blackboard. If you choose, you can complete this course without visiting the ASU campus.
Please refer to this [Health and Safety web page](#) for updated information about campus guidelines as they relate to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Required Texts and Materials**

We will use a digital text and its associated on-line materials. Specifically:

*Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, 7th edition*

By Jay H. Withgott & Matthew Laposata  
Pearson Press

**WITH “MASTERING”**

We will use the mastering system for ALL class assignments.  
The correct ISBN number for the e-text with mastering is 9780135866047

It is possible to buy either a hard copy of the book (old school!) or an e-text version of the book, without mastering. BUT YOU DON’T WANT THAT. You will not be able to complete any of the assignments without the mastering system.

The ASU bookstore has the correct materials – they sell you a paper card with an access code that you then enter on-line. It will say something like:


by Jay Withgott and Matthew Laposata

I understand that many of you are studying remotely and so you will not be able to get to the bookstore. I will make announcements in blackboard of alternative ways to get the correct materials.

**YOU WILL NOT NEED THE TEXT/MASTERING UNTIL THE SECOND WEEK OF CLASS**

**Technology Requirements**

This is an on-line course. All course instruction/assignments will be delivered through the Blackboard Learning System. Technology requirements include access to high-speed internet with sufficient bandwidth to attend on-line meetings. A web camera and microphone are required to participate in class discussions and for virtual office hour
meetings. Web cams are typically built into modern laptops, but USB versions are also available.

**Communication**

Written communication via email: All private communication will be done exclusively through your ASU email address. Check frequently for announcements and policy changes. In your emails to faculty, include the course name and section number in your subject line.

Virtual communication: Office hours and/or advising may be done with the assistance of the telephone, Collaborate, Skype, etc.

**Evaluation and Grades**

This course will have a large number of small assignments and exam/quiz style assessments. You will never feel like 'all your eggs are in one basket'. You will never have to cram for a big exam – there will be no big exams. The flip side of this is that there are no big exams -- so no big piles of available grading points to save you if you don’t keep up with all the small assignments. Yes, each one will seem small, but they add up! Stay focused on getting things done.

The following grading scale is in use for this course:

- **A** = 90-100%
- **B** = 80-89.9%
- **C** = 70-79.9%
- **D** = 60-69.9%
- **F** = 0-59.9% (Grades are not rounded up)

**General Policies Related to This Course**

All students are required to follow the policies and procedures presented in these documents:

- Angelo State University Student Handbook¹
- Angelo State University Catalog²

**Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in all work. Any student found guilty of any form of dishonesty in academic work is subject of disciplinary action and possible expulsion from ASU.
The College of Science and Engineering adheres to the university’s Statement of Academic Integrity.  

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

ASU is committed to the principle that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of the university, or be subjected to discrimination by the university, as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments of 2008 (ADAAA) and subsequent legislation.

Student Disability Services is located in the Office of Student Affairs, and is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting an employee of the Office of Student Affairs, in the Houston Harte University Center, Room 112, or contacting the department via email at ADA@angelo.edu. For more information about the application process and requirements, visit the Student Disability Services website. The employee charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing accommodation requests is:

Dallas Swafford  
Director of Student Disability Services  
Office of Student Affairs  
325-942-2047  
dallas.swafford@angelo.edu  
Houston Harte University Center, Room 112

**Incomplete Grade Policy**

It is policy that incomplete grades be reserved for student illness or personal misfortune. Please contact faculty if you have serious illness or a personal misfortune that would keep you from completing course work. Documentation may be required. See ASU Operating Policy 10.11 Grading Procedures for more information.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is a serious topic covered in ASU’s Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism is the action or practice of taking someone else’s work, idea, etc., and passing it off as one’s own. Plagiarism is literary theft.

In your discussions and/or your papers, it is unacceptable to copy word-for-word without quotation marks and the source of the quotation. It is expected that you will summarize
or paraphrase ideas giving appropriate credit to the source both in the body of your paper and the reference list.

Papers are subject to be evaluated for originality. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center. 

**Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days**
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. See ASU Operating Policy 10.19 Student Absence for Observance of Religious Holy Days for more information.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**
The University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination including: sexual assault, sex-based discrimination, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence and/or dating violence), and stalking. As a faculty member, I am a Responsible Employee meaning that I am obligated by law and ASU policy to report any allegations I am notified of to the Office of Title IX Compliance.

Students are encouraged to report any incidents of sexual misconduct directly to ASU’s Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator at:

Michelle Miller, J.D.
Special Assistant to the President and Title IX Coordinator
Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
325-486-6357
michelle.boone@angelo.edu

You may also file a report online 24/7.

If you are wishing to speak to someone about an incident in confidence you may contact the University Health Clinic and Counseling Center at 325-942-2173 or the ASU Crisis Helpline at 325-486-6345.

For more information, visit the Title IX website.

**Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students**
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom.
experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

** Modifications to the Syllabus**
This syllabus, including grade evaluation and course schedule, is subject to modification. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may require significant changes in course delivery and content on potentially short notice.

**Course Schedule**
Posted on Blackbaord

1. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/student-handbook/)
2. [https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/](https://www.angelo.edu/academics/catalog/)
4. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/disability-services/)
5. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14197-op-1011-grading-procedures)
7. [https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php](https://www.angelo.edu/current-students/writing-center/academic_honesty.php)
8. [https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of](https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/14206-op-1019-student-absence-for-observance-of)
9. [http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form](http://www.angelo.edu/incident-form)
10. [https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix](https://www.angelo.edu/title-ix)