

# Man and the Environment- Bio 1309 Syllabus

**Instructor**

Becky Dixon

**Environment: *The Science behind the Stories* 6<sup>th</sup> Ed, Withgott**

**Phone**

(325)365-3547 ext. 5061

**Email**

martha.dixon@ballingeris.net

**Office Location**

BHS Rm.113

**Office Hours**

M-F 8:44 – 9:34

**Course Overview**

In this course we will examine in the interactions between man and Earth.

Human population continues to escalate while our resources remain the same. In order to be good stewards we must understand the dynamic balance of our planet and how we can best maintain that balance.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course the students will have developed the following skills pertinent to this specific course: Demonstrate understanding of the complex interactions of humans and ecological systems in the natural world.

1. Interpret, synthesize, and apply a wide range of scientific literature in the ecological and environmental sciences, particularly dealing with both climate change and global change.
2. Interpret a wide range of scientific literature in biology, ecology, and environmental science and apply this information to problem-solving analysis, specifically in the realms of environmental and natural resource sciences and sustainability.
3. Prepare technical reports and analyses of environmental, resource ecology, and sustainability issues and present analytical results and conclusions effectively in both written and oral communication.
4. Interpret environmental, resource management, and sustainability conflicts from multiple perspectives.
5. Effectively analyze and integrate the social and natural sciences to understand diverse environmental and sustainability challenges ranging from local issues to global environments

In addition to these content-driven learning outcomes the students will also develop these principal educational proficiencies:

1. Gather, analyze, interpret and evaluate data from lab experiments.
2. Communicate information via written means on lab activities and projects.
3. Take measurements as part of a lab exercise and they will analyze that data to generate conclusions.
4. Make observations to test a hypothesis and generate conclusions based on these observations.
5. Work together on applied learning activities and collaborate with each other to support the outlined course goals.

**Required Text:**

**Attendance**

Because this is a dual credit course, the students are held to the attendance policy set forth by the Llano Independent School District and the State of Texas for high school students. The policy is as follows.

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education – to benefit from the teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences.

**COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE** – State law requires that a student between the ages of six and 18 attend school, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session, unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

**EXCESSIVE ABSENCES** -Absenteeism, whether for excused or unexcused reasons, deprives the student of the experience of participating in classroom activities. It should be understood by both parent and student that, in truth, a class period cannot be "made up". Students must be in attendance at least 90% of the days the class is offered to obtain credit in each course.

**MAKE-UP WORK**- When a student is absent, it is their responsibility, and not the teacher's to make arrangements for make-up work. Time allowed for make-up work may be determined by the teacher and should be completed within five (5) school days except in very unusual circumstances. If a student is absent and does not ask for make-up assignments, a zero may be given for work missed.

#### *Student Disability Services*

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.

The Office of Student Affairs is the designated campus department charged with the responsibility of reviewing and authorizing requests for reasonable accommodations based on a disability, and it is the student's responsibility to initiate such a request by contacting:

Ms. Dallas A. Swafford Director of Student Disability Services  
325-942-2047  
[dallas.swafford@angelo.edu](mailto:dallas.swafford@angelo.edu)  
Houston Harte University Center

#### *Title IX Statement*

Angelo State University is committed to the safety and security of all students. If you or someone you know experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, stalking, or discrimination, you may contact ASU's Title IX Coordinator:

Michelle Nicole Boone, J.D. Director of Title IX Compliance  
[Michelle.boone@angelo.edu](mailto:Michelle.boone@angelo.edu)  
325-486-6357  
Mayer Administration Building 204

#### *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 Day for more information.

#### *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.

*Student Conduct Policies*

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.

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 via Turnitin. Resources to help you understand this policy better are available at the ASU Writing Center.

Copyright Policy

Students officially enrolled in this course should make only one printed copy of the given articles and/or chapters. You are expressly prohibited from distributing or reproducing any portion of course readings in printed or electronic form without written permission from the copyright holders or publishers

**Grading Policies**

Grades will be based on the following factors.

<b>Major Grades 50 %</b>	<b>Minor Grades 40%</b>	<b>Homework</b>
<b>Unit Tests</b>	<b>In Class Assignments</b>	<b>Any assignments completed outside of class</b>
<b>Formal Lab Write Up</b>	<b>Quizzes</b>	
<b>Major Projects</b>	<b>Minor Labs</b>	
	<b>Other Assignments</b>	

There will be 7 unit tests as well as the semester or final exam. Each of these exams will include information presented in class AND assigned readings from your textbook. These assessments will be comprehensive, meaning that they will include information presented at any time during the course. This is unavoidable because many of the early topics serve as a foundation to be built upon and developed as the courses advances

### **Final Grade Calculation:**

Your final grade in this course will be determined by the average of each marking period and your semester test. This means each marking period counts one-quarter as does your final exam. Your laboratory grades will be incorporated into the individual marking period grades.

Your semester grade will be determined using the scale

90– 100% = A 89 – 89% = B 70 – 79% = C 60 – 69% = D <60% = F

### **Course Schedule**

Unit 1 Methods and Limitations of Science – Ch. 1

Unit 2 Chemistry, Geology and Intro. To Environmental Science – Ch. 2

Exam 1 (2.5 weeks)

Unit 3 Life and its Interactions - Ch. 3, 4, & 5

Exam 2 (3 weeks)

Unit 4 Human Populations – Ch.8 & 13

Exam 3 (2 weeks)

Unit 5 Agriculture and Biotechnology – Ch. 9 & 10

Exam 4 (2 weeks)

Unit 6 Biodiversity - Ch. 11

Exam 5 (2 weeks)

Unit 7 Energy and Resources Ch. 19, 20, 21

Exam 6 (3 weeks)

Unit 8 Waste Management & Pollution - Ch. 17 & 21

Exam 7 (2 weeks)

Review and Semester Test

---