

University of North Texas at Dallas

Summer 2 2025

SYLLABUS

BIOL 1132: Environmental Science		3Hrs	
Department of		Natural Science	Division of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name:		Mr. Scott Grimes	
Office Location:		FH 201D	
Office Phone:		972-338-1677	
Email Address:		Scott.grimes@untDallas.edu	
Office Hours:	Tu 1-2		
Classroom Location:		Online only	
Class Meeting Days & Times:			
Course Catalog Description:		Interdisciplinary approach to understanding basic concepts in environmental science including scientific thought, biodiversity, resource management, pollution, global climate change, resource consumption and population growth. Emphasis on how these concepts affect and are affected by human society. Includes laboratory. May not be counted toward a major or minor in biology. May be used to satisfy a portion of the Natural Sciences requirement of the University Core Curriculum.	
Prerequisites:		None	
Co-requisites:		None	
Required Text:		McGraw-Hill Connect Online Access For Principles Of Environmental Science by W.P. Cunningham and M.A. Cunningham 10th edition- <u>you need to ensure to have access to the online platform to complete homework and exams</u>	

Recommended Text and References:	N/A

<p>Supported Browsers:</p> <p>Chrome 67 & 68</p> <p>Firefox 60 & 61</p> <p>Flash 29, 30 (for audio/video)</p> <p>Respondus Lockdown Browser</p> <p>Safari 10, 11</p> <p>Supported Devices:</p> <p>iPhone</p> <p>Android</p> <p>Chromebook</p> <p><i>(Tablet users can use the Canvas app)</i></p> <p>Screen Readers:</p> <p>VoiceOver (Safari)</p> <p>JAWS (Internet Explorer)</p> <p>NVDA (Firefox)</p> <p><i>Note: There is no screen reader support for Canvas in Chrome</i></p>	<p>Getting Help with Canvas:</p> <p>Canvas 24/7 Phone Support for Students: 1-833-6688634</p> <p>Canvas Help Resources:</p> <p>Web: Canvas Student Guide</p> <p>For additional assistance, contact Student Assistance (Distance Learning):</p> <p>Founders Hall, Rm 124</p> <p>phone: (972)338-5580</p> <p>email: distancelearning@untdallas.edu</p> <p><i>If you are working with Canvas 24/7 Support to resolve a technical issue, make sure to keep me updated on the troubleshooting progress.</i></p> <p><i>If you have a course-related issue (course content, assignment troubles, quiz difficulties) please contact me during office hours or by email.</i></p>
<p>Course Goals or Overview:</p>	
	<p>The goal of this course is to introduce students to environmental science and to give students the background information needed to critically think about current environmental issues. Topics will include basic ecology, a review of environmental policy, and resource management theories. The course will include discussions of current environmental and conservation challenges, many of which do not have a clear-cut solution. Students should be willing and able to voice and defend their opinions on these subjects as well as be respectful of the opinions of others. Students will be evaluated based on online activities, research paper, exam performance, and laboratory reports</p>
<p>Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will</p>	

1	Demonstrate the ability to assimilate and critically think about biological and scientific processes/theories
2	Demonstrate the ability to assimilate and critically think about environmental policy and legislation
3	Explain the various roles of organisms in their environment, and discuss the interrelatedness of living organisms, environmental processes, and human cultural and societal needs
4	Be able to accurately explain the conflicting social, economic, and biological needs of humanity and other living organisms
5	Identify the major attributes and characteristics of the earth's major ecosystems and explain the role they play in economically important ecosystem services and biotourism
6	List and discuss various personal and corporate actions that can mitigate or reverse the negative impact of human activities on the biosphere; explain various tradeoffs related to sustainable stewardship of the earth's biodiversity and its resources

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class.

TOPICS	TIMELINE	Other deadlines
Chapter 1: Understanding Our Environment		
Chapter 2: Environmental Systems		
Chapter 3: Evolution, Species Interaction, and Biological Communities		
Chapter 4: Human Populations		Exam 1- July 21st
Chapter 5: Biomes and Diversity		
Chapter 6: Environmental Conservation		
Chapter 7: Food and Agriculture		
Chapter 8: Environmental Health and Toxicity		Exam 2- July 29th
Chapter 9: Climate		
Chapter 10: Air Pollution		
Chapter 11: Water Resources		
Chapter 12: Geology and Earth Resources		Exam 3- August 6th
Chapter 13: Energy		
Chapter 14: Waste		Group Presentations due 8/6
Final Exam/ Exam 4	August 14th	

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Exams	4 exam worth 100 each	400
Homework	15 @ 10 pts ea	150
Group Presentation		50
Lab		200
Total:		800

Grade Determination will use the following guidelines:

A = 90% and up

B = 80-89 %

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

F = less than 60%

Warning: The lecture and lab of this course are linked. You must earn at least 60% of the points in the lab portion in order to pass the course overall. Failure to earn at least 60% of the lab portion will result in an automatic “F” in the course.

University Policies and Procedures

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see [Disability Services Office](#). You may also contact them by phone at 972-3381777; by email at UNTDisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement:

University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. [Canvas Instructure Accessibility Statement is also provided.](#)

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

CoursEval Policy: Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy: According to the instructor's discretion while working in concert with the division/program's guidelines).

Exam Policy: Exams if applicable should be taken as scheduled. No makeup exams will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity (Policy 7.002) at

[https://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic Integrity.pdf](https://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic%20Integrity.pdf)

Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct at

[https://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.p](https://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.pdf)

[df](https://www.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/hds0041/pdf/7_001_student_code_of_conduct_may_2014.pdf) Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students. In addition, all academic work turned in for this class, including exams, papers and written assignments must include the following statement: *"On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy."*

Bad Weather Policy: Campus facilities will close and operations will be suspended when adverse weather and/or safety hazards exist on the UNTD campus or if travel to the campus is deemed dangerous as the result of ice, sleet or snow. In the event of a campus closure, the Marketing and Communication Department will report closure information to all appropriate major media by 7 a.m. That department will also update the UNTD website, Facebook and Twitter with closing information as soon as it is possible. For more information please refer to

<http://www.untDallas.edu/police/resources/notifications>

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Please refer to Policy 7.005 Student Attendance at

<http://www.untDallas.edu/hr/upol>

Diversity/Tolerance Policy: Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive and inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate. (UNTD Policy 7.001)

Classroom Policies

Online Attendance and Participation:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Canvas classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Canvas, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to [UNT Dallas' Registrar](#) for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor's discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

Inclement Weather and Online Classes: Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

Online "Netiquette:

In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper "netiquette" (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no "flaming" messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at <http://www.untDallas.edu/osa/policies>. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Technology Assistance: In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements listed on the first page of the syllabus.

If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Google Chrome browser. If you still experience technical difficulties, first, notify your instructor.

If the problem is still not resolved, call Student Assistance (Distance Learning) at the phone number listed on the first page of the syllabus. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [UNT Dallas Canvas Technical Requirements](#)
- [Canvas Instructure Supported & Unsupported Operating Systems](#)

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absent for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directive of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevents the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.