BIO105 ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY/ AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

RIO SALADO COLLEGE/MOUNTAIN RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Section #: 22994/22995
Instructor: Jason Prey
2023-2024

INSTRUCTOR:

Mr. Jason Prey
B.A. Biology: University of Colorado @ Boulder
M.A. Curriculum and Instruction:
Colorado Christian University
Internships: Denver Botanic Gardens, Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site

Office Hours: Tue & Wed 2:15-2:45 & by appt. in C209
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TEXTS & MATERIALS:

Principles of Environmental Science, 9th Edition, By William Cunningham and Mary Cunningham
Canvas Learning Management System: https://dvusd.instructure.com/

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Environmental Biology examines the relationships of living organisms to both living and non-living components of ecosystems. Human impact on natural systems will also be explored.
Prerequisites: None

COURSE COMPETENCIES:

1. Analyze environmental information using the scientific method, statistics, and critical thinking.
2. Perform investigations and report the results.
3. Explain the concept of sustainability and its three interrelated components: ecological, economic, and social.
4. Describe how the environment, working through evolutionary processes, has produced the diversity of species on the Earth.
5. Discuss why biodiversity is essential for a healthy environment and how human activities affect biodiversity in both positive and negative ways.
6. Explain the concepts of biogeochemical cycling and energy flow through ecosystems.
7. Describe the methods used by ecologists to study populations, communities, and ecosystems.
8. Describe the effects of various agricultural practices on soil, water, biodiversity, and animal welfare.
9. Recommend ways to reduce the production of solid waste, water pollution, and air pollution.
10. Assess the impacts of human activities on water resources and aquatic systems.
11. Discuss how human population growth and resource consumption affect the environment.
12. Compare the advantages and disadvantages of various sources of nonrenewable and renewable energy.
13. Explain how humans contribute to global climate change and how climate change affects the earth`s ecosystems.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Assignments are due at the time and date stated.
    a. Assignments submitted 1 day late will earn 50% credit, 2 days late earn 25% credit, and no credit is earned thereafter.
    b. Beyond 2 days you may turn in your work late and I can give you feedback, but you cannot earn points.
2. Some assignments will be submitted on paper and some digitally.
3. After an excused absence, you have 1 school day for each day missed to make up work/exams.
4. If you are going to miss an exam day talk to me! You should be prepared to take the make-up exam the first day you return.

SUGGESTED MATERIALS:

1. Colored pencils, highlighter, paper, ruler, graph paper, pencils (pref. mechanical)
2. NON-powdered Nitrile or Vinyl Gloves

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY:

The student is responsible for the information outlined in the syllabus. The student is also responsible for knowing the Rio Salado College policies in the college catalog and the student handbook. Please refer to: https://www.riosalado.edu/early-college/dual-enrollment

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

In order to maintain college credit, you are not allowed to miss more than six class period. Upon the seventh absence, you may forfeit college credit and earn a letter grade of "F" for the college course. This includes excused or unexcused absences or sweep. If a student is suspended (either off campus or on campus) the days will count against his/her overall attendance. All college visits/orientations are personal extracurricular decisions and are not exempt from the dual enrollment attendance policy.
*Note: School excused activities do not count against your attendance.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE:

In addition to the Academic Prep times built into our schedule each week, additional assistance/tutoring is provided on a weekly basis Tues & Weds after school. Additional dates and times will be posted in the classroom at the start of each week.

GRADING & EVALUATION:

Grade Book Weighting: (DVUSD District Wide)

80% Assessment – Include tests, quizzes, projects, lab practicals or other items that show a summative understanding of the students' knowledge.
20% Coursework – Includes in class assignments and some labs.
0% Practice – Includes daily activities used to help the students understand the content without penalty.

Grading for Dual Enrollment Credit

Students will be evaluated based on the following:

Labs 25%
Assessments 75%

There is NO extra credit. The scheduled assignments and exams are sufficient to test understanding of the materials presented in the course.
*You must earn a cumulative D- (60%) or higher in both the Assessment & Lab categories or you will lose college credit.

Grading Scale:

90% – 100% = A	80% – 89% = B	70% – 79% = C	60% – 69% = D	59% or below = F

POWER SCHOOL ONLINE ACCESS:

Grades and attendance may be accessed 24 hours a day online with your Power School access code. Access codes are available in the Administration front office Monday – Friday 7:00 – 3:30. You must provide picture ID to be issued a code. MRHS also offers a guest computer and log-in for Power Schools, available in the Counseling office for parent/guardian. In an effort to conserve resources and harness the capacity of our electronic grade reporting program (described above), district schools will no longer print hard copies of report cards unless requested by individual parents. To request a hard copy of your student's report card, please contact the front office at 623-376-3000.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct includes cheating, conspiring to cheat, soliciting to cheat, attempting to cheat, plagiarism, fabrication on an assignment, or other forms of dishonest presentation. Posting assessments on an unauthorized web site, soliciting assessment answers and the unauthorized acquisition of assessments, assessment answers, or other academic material is cheating. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling or sharing of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the Internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism. We expect every student to produce his/her original, independent work. Any student whose work indicates a violation of the MCCCD Academic Misconduct Policy (including cheating and plagiarism) can expect sanctions as specified in the college catalog (2.3.11) and online at https://district.maricopa.edu/regulations/admin-regs/section-2/2-3#11. Rio Salado College uses software that uncovers plagiarism from student to student and other data sources on the Internet. If a student is found to have plagiarized content, grade consequences will be applied in accordance with departmental policies. A first-time offense can result in **semester** failure. In this class, optional assignments will be given for grade opportunities. Any cheating or plagiarism will result in no credit for all previous and future optional activities.

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) and its associated colleges are committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities to students with documented disabilities (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical). Each class/term/semester that a student is in need of academic adjustments/accommodations, the qualified student is required to work with the Disability Resources & Services Office (DRS) at their individual college(s). Contact with the DRS should be made as soon as possible to ensure academic needs are met in a reasonable time. New and returning students must request accommodations each semester through DRS Connect online services. To learn more about this easy process, please contact your local DRS office. Notify Mr. Prey and the Disability Services and Resources of any special needs asap. Contact Disability Services and Resources at (480) 517-8562.

CIVILITY POLICY:

The faculty of Rio Salado place a high value on the importance of general ethical standards of academic behavior and expect that communication between students and instructors or among students shall maintain the level of formality and mutual respect appropriate to any college teaching/learning situation. Language or behavior that is rude, abusive, profane, disruptive, or threatening will not be tolerated. Activity of this type is Academic Misconduct as defined in MCCCD Policy AR 2.3.11. Students engaging in such behavior will be removed from the course with a failing grade. Additional sanctions may be applied pursuant to AR 2.3.11.

The Deer Valley Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. For any inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Superintendent's Department, 20402 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027. 623.445.5000.

WITHDRAWAL POLICY:
If you decide to withdraw from the course you must complete paperwork to officially do so. Students who drop courses within the refund period are eligible for a reimbursement of appropriate tuition. Deadlines and details are available online at https://national.riosalado.edu/paying-for-college/refunds

LABORATORY BREAKAGE POLICY: In the event a student breaks or damages any laboratory materials, textbooks, computers, etc., that student will be responsible for paying the replacement cost for each item. Students are taught proper procedures and laboratory etiquette to ensure the safety of our students during lab activities. This policy helps hold the students accountable for their actions and reinforces careful laboratory procedures. A passing semester grade cannot be earned until all materials are returned and/or debts are paid.

DAILY ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE (iPads)
Students should come to school with their iPads charged and ready to use in each class every day. Devices may not be used to record or take photos of other people without their consent. Consequences for classroom disruptions and misuse of devices will follow a progressive discipline model, beginning with a phone call home and progressing to office referrals for repeated or more serious offenses. See the Student Rights and Responsibilities consequence chart in the handbook for more specific descriptions of infractions and consequences.

AI STATEMENT
In Deer Valley Unified School District, we are committed to providing our students with the best possible education while ensuring their safety, privacy, and well-being. As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance learning experiences, we may incorporate the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the classroom for students. However, it is important to approach this technology with caution and adhere to responsible data privacy practices.

DVUSD has determined that the use of Large Language Models (LLMs), such as ChatGPT, is prohibited unless clearly specified by your teacher. Specific guidelines will be provided in the assignment details. If you are unsure if the tool or website you are using is an LLM or if it is permitted on a specific assignment, please contact your teacher before submitting your work.

PERSONAL NOTE:
Because this is a college level environmental biology class, topics such as human impacts on the world, animal behavior, dissections, human behavior and many other sensitive and sometimes graphic topics will be discussed and seen in lectures, slides, videos, guest speakers and/or labs.

THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AS DETERMINED BY THE INSTRUCTOR

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