

**Florida A&M University
School of the Environment**

**EVR 1001
Fundamentals of Environmental Science
Section 003: Monday/Wednesday/Friday 10:10-11:00pm (FSH-214)
Fall Semester 2023**

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Office Hours: M/W from 9-10am or by *appointment*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Conditions that are healthy for living things on earth are the main topics covered in the course. To identify these conditions relevant concepts from biology, chemistry and physics are presented. Threats to healthy conditions, actions that are likely to maintain healthy conditions and laws that promote health conditions are then discussed. One objective of the course is to present information that will serve as part of the basis for decisions about lifestyle choices and economic actions to support.

Prerequisite(s): MAC 1105 College Algebra.

General Education course: EVR 1001 is a General Education (three credit hours).

Course restrictions: EVR 1001 is open to undergraduate students only

Availability to non-ESI majors: EVR 1001 is open to all undergraduate students from all disciplines

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Review basic concepts in biology, chemistry, environmental laws, environmental policy, physics, and toxicology.
2. Demonstrate how science, engineering, and policy are used to address environmental problems.
3. Promote the understanding of the issues that are related to environmental health
4. Stimulate thought about how human activities affect a sustainable and healthy environment.

LEARNING MATERIALS

Text: Elijah Johnson and Richard D. Schulerbrandt Gragg III, Your Environmental Connections, (Great River Learning, 4050 Westmark Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52002, August 2015), **ISBN Number:** 9781680750300.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The delivery for this course is face-to-face or traditional. In Canvas, you will access course materials, and resources. To access this course on FAMU Canvas you will need access to the Internet and a supported Web browser (Firefox, Safari, and/or Google Chrome). To ensure that you are using a supported browser and have required plug-ins please run the [Check Browser](#) from your Canvas course.

EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. **Foundation skills and knowledge**
 - students will demonstrate a basic understanding of the various factors that influence and are influenced by the environmental processes.
 2. **Effective written and oral communication**
 - students will demonstrate the ability to explain concepts related to environmental science to their classmates and professor in both oral and written form.
 3. **Critical thinking**
 - students will demonstrate an ability to assimilate and critically evaluate facts and concepts related to topical information presented in assigned readings and to stimulate discussion and answer questions from their peers on assigned topics
 4. **Integration of learned skills and information**
 - students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and integrate information they've learned from various subject areas in their undergraduate curriculum and apply and relate that knowledge to the topical information presented in the course (and vice versa)
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COURSE ADMINISTRATION

Grading Policy:

Grade Distribution	Points	Total
5 Exams	30/each	150
4 Quizzes/Assignments	10/each	40
TOTAL POINTS		190

Letter Grades:

A = 90% - 100% (171-190 pts); B = 80% - 89% (152-170 pts); C = 70% - 79% (133-151 pts); D = 60% - 69% (114-132 pts); F = 0% - 59% (<113 pts)

Incomplete Grade Policy:

“Due to extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the student, a grade of “I” may only be assigned if the student is passing the course, but has not completed all of the required work by the end of the term. Grades of “I” may not be assigned in any course that a student withdraws from, has excessive absences in, or fails to attend.” (taken from FAMU’s 2019-2020 Catalogue). In addition, an “I” will be awarded when a small portion of the student’s work is incomplete (<20% of grade).

Exams: This course has FIVE not cumulative exams. Exams consist of subjective, short answer, and essay type questions coupled with T/F, multiple choices and fill-in the blanks. The questions are used to assess scientific literacy in SCIENCE and understanding of its principles. In addition, critical thinking and cognitive learning towards natural processes will be assessed in the exams using short/long essay questions. All lecture materials, readings, movies, and discussion topics may appear on the exams. **Exams will be administered DURING CLASS TIME AND IN THE CLASSROOM.** The course covers a large amount of material in a relatively short amount of time. Hence, it is suggested that you keep up with your reading and studying. **There are no make-up exams. OUT OF THE FIVE EXAMS, THE LOWEST ONE WILL BE DROPPED.**

Quizzes: This course has FOUR quizzes based on the material discussed. The quizzes will consist of T/F and multiple-choice questions and in occasion short essays. **There are no make-up quizzes. Quizzes will be administered DURING THE FIRST 10 MINUTES OF CLASS.** If you arrived six minutes late you will have 4 minutes left to finish.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is expected and is fundamental to success in this course. Students have the opportunity to earn **10 extra points** based on attendance. Missing a class is not an excuse for not being prepared. It is up to the student to obtain class material and class assignments from another student, not the instructor, in the class when a session is missed. Note that any student exceeding THREE unexcused absences *‘may be assigned the letter F’* (FAMU’s 2019-2020 Catalogue). For more information regarding class attendance regulations please refer to the University Catalogue.

University Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement

The Florida A&M University Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy Statement states that “Individuals who need a reasonable accommodation must notify the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs at 599-3076.” It is the responsibility of the FAMU Equal Opportunity Programs (EOP) Office, through the ADA Coordinator, to ensure the Florida A&M University is in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you have any

questions, please contact your Academic Advisor or the University EOP Officer, Equal Opportunity Programs, 674 Gamble Street, Tallahassee, FL 32307, (850) 599-3076.

Withdrawal Policy:

November 9, 2023 (FAMU's Academic Calendar). The student must take responsibility for initiating the withdrawal procedure.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

The instructor will follow FAMU's policies regarding cheating, plagiarism and disruption of academic process. The FANG (2017-2019) defines plagiarism as: "Unless otherwise defined, plagiarism shall include, but is not limited to, : failure of the student to use another's work without any indication of the source and in so doing, conveying or attempting to convey that the work is the student's own; submitting a document or assignment in whole or in part that is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not written by the student; allowing another person to compose or rewrite an assignment or document."

In this course, plagiarism shall include failure to use quotation marks or other conventional markings around material quoted from any source.

Academic Honor Policy Statement

Florida A&M University is committed to academic honesty and its core values, which include scholarship, excellence, accountability, integrity, fairness, respect, and ethics. These core values are integrated into this academic honesty policy. Being unaware of the Academic Honesty Policy is not a defense for violations of academic honesty. Additional detail on FAMU Academic Honesty Violations are provided in University Policy 2.012 (10.)(s). If you have any questions, please see your Academic Advisor.

Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University to assure that each member of the University community be permitted to work or attend classes in an environment free from any form of discrimination including race, religion, color, age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, veteran status and sexual harassment as prohibited by state and federal statutes. This shall include applicants for admission to the University and employment.

Religious Preference Absence Policy:

Students who anticipate the necessity of being absent from class due to a major religious observance must provide advance notice of the date(s) to the instructor, in writing, **by the second week of classes.**

Student Conduct:

You are reminded of the necessity for academic integrity as stated in the official FAMU policy. Any misconduct will be referred to the appropriate office of the university. If you are unsure about what constitutes academic misconduct, refer to The FANG (2017-2019).

Email Policy:

I will answer questions you may have about the course over email. However, I expect emails to follow basic etiquette: have a proper greeting; sign-off; and in general be polite and professional. Please send emails from your FAMU email account so it won't go to the spam folder. **Also include the course # and section.**

Title IX Sexual Harassment:

Please refer to the following for the FAMU's Title IX policies:

<http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?titleix>

Course Outline/Schedule

Important Note:

This is a tentative schedule for the course, and the instructor may change it without any prior notice. Refer to the course calendar for specific meeting dates and times. Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each week's corresponding learning module. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Day	Subject	Notes
Aug. 28	Introduction	
Aug. 30	Module 1: What is Science?	
Sept. 1	Module 1: What is Science?	
Sept. 4	LABOR DAY- NO CLASS	
Sept. 6	Module 2: Motion	
Sept. 8	Module 2: Motion	
Sept. 11	Module 2: Motion	
Sept. 13	Module 3: Chemistry	
Sept. 15	Module 3: Chemistry	Q #1
Sept. 18	Module 3: Chemistry	
Sept. 20	Exam #1 (Modules 1-3)	
Sept. 22	Module 4: Evolution of Life	
Sept. 25	Module 4: Evolution of Life	
Sept. 27	Module 4: Evolution of Life	Q #2
Sept. 29	Module 5: Ecology and Environment	
Oct. 2	Module 5: Ecology and Environment	
Oct. 4	Module 5: Ecology and Environment	
Oct. 6	Module 6: Florida Dolphins (https://www.pbs.org/video/changing-seas-sentinels-of-the-seas/)	
Oct. 9	Module 7: Toxicology and Health (documentary)	
Oct. 11	Exam #2 (Modules 4-7)	
Oct. 13	Module 8: Solar System	
Oct. 16	Module 8: Solar System	
Oct. 18	Module 8: Solar System; Module 9: Earth	
Oct. 20	Module 9: Earth	
Oct. 23	Module 9: Earth	
Oct. 25	Module 10: Earth's Waters	
Oct. 27	Module 10: Earth's Waters	Q #3
Oct. 30	Exam #3 (Modules 8-10)	
Nov. 1	Module 11: Soils	
Nov. 3	Module 11: Soils	Q #4
Nov. 6	Module 11: Module 12: Food (GMO-OMG documentary)	
Nov. 8	Module 12: Food (GMO-OMG documentary)	
Nov. 9	Drop Date ; Module 13: Human Population (Soylent Green Movie)	
Nov. 10	VETERANS DAY- NO CLASS	
Nov. 13	Module 13: Human Population (Soylent Green Movie)	

Nov. 15 Module 14: Unacceptable Levels (movie)

Nov. 17 Module 14: Unacceptable Levels (movie)

Nov. 20 Exam #4

Nov. 22-Nov. 24 TURKEY DAY- NO CLASS

Nov. 27 Module 15: Biochemical cycles

Nov. 29 Module 15: Biochemical cycles

Dec. 1 Module 16: Water Systems

Dec. 4 Module 16: Water Systems

Dec. 6 Module 16: Water Systems

Dec. 8 Catchup Day

Dec. 11-15 FINAL EXAM WEEK

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to provide student guidance on the type of content and activities that will be covered in this course throughout the semester. It will be followed to the extent possible. However, modifications may be made to supplement and/or enhance student learning.