

Midland College Syllabus

2022-2023

ENVR 1402 Lecture

Environmental Science Lecture

4 Semester Credit Hours

(3 Lecture/3 Lab)

Core Curriculum Course

Instructor Information:

Instructor: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Phone: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Office Hours: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Office: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Email: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Notice:

Students **MUST** actively participate by completing an academic assignment required by the instructor by the official census date. Students who do not actively participate in an academically-related activity may be reported as never attended and dropped from the course.

Course Description:

This course is devoted to the issues associated with human interactions with the environment. Current topics will be discussed such as environment ethics (including economic growth versus ecosystem preservation), effects of urbanization on the natural environment, issues of mining and burning fossil fuels, and a survey of energy alternatives. Additionally, the dynamics of sustainable soils, with regards to agriculture and feeding the population masses, and the Earth's physical systems that influence climate and the availability of resources, dynamics of biodiversity and basics of population, community and ecosystem ecology will be covered. Finally, the issues that drive the global climate change controversy will be discussed.

Prerequisite: Prerequisite (s): Satisfied TSI readiness in ELAR and MATH or met multiple measures requirements in ELAR and Math.

Core Objectives:

This course fulfills four hours of the Life and Physical Science requirement in the Midland College **Core Curriculum**. The Core Curriculum is a set of courses that provide students with a foundation of knowledge, skills and educational experiences that are essential for all learning. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#) for any questions about the core. As part of the core, this course addresses the following four objectives:

Critical thinking skills –Students will demonstrate critical thinking by examining and solving applied environmental issues.

Communication skills – Students will demonstrate communication skills in written, oral, and/or visual form within the classroom setting through instructor posed questions, collaborative peer assignments, and exams.

Empirical and Quantitative skills – Students will demonstrate empirical and quantitative skills by analyzing applied environmental science concepts via course assignments, discussions, and exams.

Teamwork – Students will demonstrate teamwork skills by functioning as collaborative and cooperative small groups to answer instructor posed questions and/or complete assignments.

Text, References and Supplies:

Lecture Text: Withgott, Environment: The Science Behind the Stories, ISBN: 9780134485997

Computer: Access to a working computer throughout the course with the ability to access the internet and Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course the student will

1. Identify terminology associated with environmental science.
2. Compare concepts of environmental ethics with regards to achieving environmental and economic sustainability.
3. Describe the effects of human population growth on natural and urban environments.
4. Identify the issues associated with the mining and burning of fossil fuels, and the options provided by energy alternatives.
5. Describe dynamics of sustainable soils, methods of soil protection, and the issues to be encountered to feed the masses in the future.
6. Evaluate the Earth's physical systems that influence climate and the availability of resources, dynamics of biodiversity and basics of population, community and ecosystem ecology.
7. Identify concepts of ecology and resources encountered in air, land and aquatic systems.
8. Evaluate the issues that drive the global climate change controversy.

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

Students will be expected to comply with the policies outlined in the Midland College student handbook. Instructor policies concerning academic behavior are consistent with the policies in the student handbook.

Attendance Policy:

It is the responsibility of the students to know the policies and procedures associated with absences. These policies are set by instructors and can be found on the instructor's handout. Excused absences may include, but are not limited to, illness, severe weather, and death in the family. Instructors will determine whether or not an absence is excused. Please visit the Midland College catalog

Students will be evaluated based on the results of examinations, as well as Canvas-based quizzes, and writing assignments given throughout the semester. Your lecture instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to the tentative dates and content for each assignment. Students are expected to complete each

assignment. Your instructor will inform you on the first day of class as to make-up procedures for missed exams and any exemption procedures if they apply (See Instructor Handout).

Withdrawal Policy:

Students who have enrolled in a Texas public institution of higher education as a first-time freshman in fall 2007 or later are permitted to drop no more than six courses during the entire undergraduate career. This limit includes all transfer work taken at a Texas institution of higher education and to second baccalaureate degrees. This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 (Texas Education Code 51.907). Any course that a student drops after Census Day is counted toward the six-course limit if "(1) the student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student's transcript indicates or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and (3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution." Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

Scholastic Dishonesty:

Midland College does not tolerate scholastic dishonesty or academic misconduct in any form. Please read the MC Student Handbook on this subject. Please visit the [Midland College Catalog](#)

Evaluation of Students:

Course Grade will be determined according to the following.

Lecture: 70% of total course grade, may be composed of the following

Exams:	80% - 100%
On-line Quizzes/Writing Assignments:	0 - 20%

Lab: 30% of total course grade, may be composed of the following

Exams:	50% - 100%
Lab Reports from Lab Activities:	0 - 40%
Attendance:	0 - 10%

Grade Range (90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, 70-79%=C, 60-69%=D, less than 60%=F)

Course Schedule:

This class meets for 3 lecture hours per week and 3 laboratory hours per week. For a tentative schedule of the class meetings please refer to the schedule distributed to each student on the first class meeting (See Instructor Handout).

Non-Discrimination Statement

Midland College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following individual has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Tana Baker

Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer
3600 N. Garfield, SSC 131
Midland, Texas 79705
(432) 685-4781

tbaker@midland.edu

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit the ED.gov Office of Civil Rights website, or call 1 (800) 421-3481.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:

Midland College provides services for students with disabilities through Student Services. In order to receive accommodations, students must visit www.midland.edu/accommodation and complete the Application for Accommodation Services located under the Apply for Accommodations tab. Services or accommodations are not automatic, each student must apply and be approved to receive them. All documentation submitted will be reviewed and a "Notice of Accommodations" letter will be sent to instructors outlining any reasonable accommodations.

Continuity of Instruction Statement:

In the event that on campus activities are suspended due to extenuating circumstances, such as weather or quarantine, the instructor will continue instruction in a manner that best supports the course content and student engagement. In this event, your instructor will notify students of the change via [Click here to enter text.](#) At that time, they will provide details about how instruction and communication will continue, how academic integrity will be ensured, and what students may expect during the time that on campus activities are suspended. If a student becomes unable to continue class participation due to extenuating circumstances, (e.g., health and safety, loss of power, etc.) the student should contact their instructor and advisor for guidance. Resources are available to students via the SOS program. Information can be found at <https://www.midland.edu/services-resources/student-services/sos.php>.

Grievances or complaints:

Concerns should be expressed as soon as possible to allow for early resolution. Midland College encourages students to discuss their concerns with their instructor first. If you feel uncomfortable discussing your situation with your instructor, students should discuss their concerns with the Chair of the appropriate department (Biology Chair – Mr. Tomas Hernandez (432-685-6751), Chemistry Chair – Mr. John Anderson (432-685-6737), Engineering and Physics Chair – Dr. Brian Flowers (432-685-4586), Geology Chair – Mr. Antony Giles (432-685-5580), Kinesiology Chair – Ms. Sheena Thompson (432-685-4579), Math Chair – Dr. Krista Cohlma (432-685-4541) then the Dean of Math and Science – Dr. Miranda Poage (432-685-4561). If a resolution is still not possible, students may proceed with the formal complaint process.

<http://catalog.midland.edu/content.php?catoid=14&navoid=2579#grievances-and-complaints>

Math & Science Division Information:

Division Office: AHSF 124 (432) 685-4561
Division E-Mail: mns@midland.edu

Department Chair: Mr.Tomas Hernandez (432) 685-6751
Dean: Dr. Miranda Poage
Secretary: Sarah Anderson
Clerk: Liliana Orcutt

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