

Syllabus

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WL110, 3 Credits
Spring 2009**

Department of Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences
South Dakota State University

Class Location and Meeting Time: Rotunda D (SRO D), Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00-10:15 a.m.

Instructor's Contact Information: Dr. Daniel Hubbard Office: SNP 139-C Telephone: 688-6121
Email: D2L email only please

Office Hours: Please email for appointment

Required Text: Chiras, D.D, J. P. Reganold, and O.S. Owen. 2005. Natural Resource Conservation: Management for a Sustainable Future. 9th edition. Prentice Hall, New Jersey (ISBN 0-13-145832-9). (Available through the SDSU bookstore, <http://www.sdstatebookstore.com/> or 1-800-985-8771)

Course Description: Ecological approach to conservation; human's past and present impacts on world environments; wise use of natural resources, including soil, water, air, forests, rangelands, energy, wildlife, and fisheries. Students will gain factual knowledge and learn fundamental concepts of natural resource conservation and management. The influence of culture and the wants, needs, and desires of human beings will be integrated into the material.

Prerequisites: There are no formal prerequisites for this course; however, technology skills are required. These skills relate to use of internet resources, primarily browsers and Adobe Acrobat Reader. The recommended browser is the most current version of Microsoft Internet Explorer. Basic technology (e.g., computer system, network, and software) requirements and assistance are provided at <http://learn.sdstate.edu/online/require.htm>. Additional information may be obtained by contacting SDSU support services at (605) 688-6776, or SDSU.SupportDesk@sdstate.edu.

Instructional Method: The primary mode of instruction will be lecture (accompanied by visual aids). Visual presentations (lecture notes) are provided on D2L for each lecture to facilitate comprehension of selected topics. Lecture notes (.pdf files of slides, etc.) can be printed off before class for note taking, but materials may change prior to lecture. Information may be presented in lecture that is not on D2L lecture notes.

Course Goals and Outcomes: This course fulfills the Institutional Graduation Requirement for Land and Natural Resources (Goal #1): Students will understand land and other natural resource stewardship within the land-grant philosophy by using scientific principles.

Goal #1: Student Learning Outcomes (SLO): As a result of taking this course, students will:

SLO 1. Learn the fundamental importance of land and other natural resource stewardship;

- SLO 2. Understand scientific principles as they pertain to stewardship of land and other natural resources;
- SLO 3. Develop an ethic for responsible use of land and other natural resources; and,
- SLO 4. Develop knowledge or skills related to the sustainable stewardship of land and other natural resources.

Student learning outcomes for Goal #1 will be assessed with online examinations. SLO 1 will be assessed with specific questions derived from Chapters 1, 3 - 7, and 9 - 16. SLO 2 will be assessed with specific questions derived from Chapters 3, 4, 6, 7, and 10 - 16. SLO 3 will be assessed with specific questions derived from Chapters 1, 3, 5 -7, 10, and 11. SLO 4 will be assessed with specific questions derived from Chapters 1 through 5, 7, and 10.

Goal #2: This course also is intended to meet the requirement for globalization. Students will understand globalization and how it affects the human community by:

- SLO 1. Demonstrating a basic level of understanding of globalization;
- SLO 2. Identifying the benefits and cost implications of globalization;
- SLO 3. Identifying and analyzing global issues including how multiple perspectives impact such issues; and
- SLO 4. Interpreting global issues and data utilizing discipline-specific analytical and/or philosophical tools.

Student learning outcomes for the Goal #2 will be assessed with examination questions that address factors and current issues associated with globalization. These questions will be derived from information contained in Chapters 1 through 7, 11, 12, and 14 through 16.

Course Web Site: Online materials (i.e., syllabus, lecture notes, exam results, and resource links) are available at <http://D2L.sdstate.edu/>. You will utilize D2L extensively, and I suggest you become familiar with this program early in the semester and ask for assistance if you have any questions. The D2L homepage above has very good instructions for first time users.

Course Requirements: Students are required to complete all assigned textbook readings. Students are required to complete the quiz and 4 scheduled exams. It is strongly recommended that students read each chapter in the textbook prior to the lectures because chapters cover material in much greater detail than can be discussed in the course. I expect you to ask questions on topics that you do not fully understand.

Attendance: Students are strongly encouraged to attend all lectures; however, due to large class size attendance will not be monitored. Studies have demonstrated a strong correlation between grades and class attendance.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Date	Topic	Assigned Chapter
------	-------	------------------

Jan 15	Syllabus and class expectations	
Jan 20	Natural Resource Conservation overview	1
Jan 22	Environmental economics and ethics	2
Jan 27	Ecology 1 also a QUIZ on this day! Quiz on Chapter 2 (Log onto D2L 8am -5pm)	3
Jan 29	Ecology 2	3
Feb 3	Human population change	4
Feb 5	World hunger	5
Feb 10	EXAM 1	1 - 5
Feb 12	Nature of soils	6
Feb 17	Soil Conservation	7
Feb 19	Aquatic environments	9
Feb 24	Fisheries Conservation	12
Feb 26	Fisheries Management	12
Mar 3	Managing water resources	10
Mar 5	EXAM 2	6-10, 12
Mar 17	Water pollution	11
Mar 19	Rangeland	13
Mar 24	Forest	14
Mar 26	Extinction	15
Mar 31	Wildlife Ecology	16
Apr 2	Wildlife Management	16
Apr 7	Catch-up	
Apr 9	EXAM 3	11, 13-16
Apr 14	Air pollution	18
Apr 16	Global climate change	19
Apr 21	Energy	21
Apr 23	Energy	21
Apr 28	Renewable Energy	22
Apr 30	Catch-up	
May 7	EXAM 4 12:00 Noon	18,19,21,22

Grading/Assessment:

The final course grade is composed of the following elements:

Title	Due date	Points
ONLINE QUIZ	Jan 27 (may take between 8	10

	am and 5 pm)	
ONLINE EXAM 1	Feb 10 (must start at 9:00 am)	100
ONLINE EXAM 2	Mar 5 (must start at 9:00 am)	100
ONLINE EXAM 3	Apr 9 (must start at 9:00 am)	100
ONLINE EXAM 4	May 7 (must start at 12:00 noon)	100

Total points = 410

Assessment descriptions:

Online Quiz. The first quiz will cover Chapter 2 only and will be given using the same format as the exams. Students will log onto D2L and be given an allotted amount of time to complete the quiz. Online quiz will cover both lecture and text material from Chapter 2. This multiple choice quiz will consist of 5 questions, and students will have 10 minutes to complete the quiz (from the time you log in). Each question is worth 2 points for a total of 10 points.

Online Exams: The online exam format will consist of multiple-choice and true-and-false questions. Exam content will include the information presented in lectures and chapter readings. Online exams begin at 9:00 AM on day of exam so students must be at a computer at that time. Do not go to SRO D! Time for online exams will be limited to 50 minutes.

Make-up exams are discouraged. In order to be eligible for a make-up exam, you must have an approved university excuse and contact Dr. Hubbard or the Department Secretary (688-6121) before the scheduled in-class exam. There will be no make-up exams given if you do not contact me the Department Secretary before the exam. The make-up exam format will be 100% essay.

Course Grade: Course grades will be assigned according to the standard scoring system. Only by attaining the following points/percentages can you be assured of receiving a desired grade.

Grade	Percentage	Points
A	90–100%	369-410
B	80–89%	328-368
C	70-79%	287-327
D	60-69%	246-286
F	<60%	<246

Academic Freedom and Responsibility

Freedom in learning. Students are responsible for learning the content of any course of study in which they are enrolled. Under Board of Regents and University policy, student academic performance shall be evaluated solely on an academic basis and students should be free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study. Students who believe that an academic evaluation is unrelated to academic standards but is related instead to judgment of their personal opinion or conduct should first contact the instructor of the course. If the student remains unsatisfied, the student may contact the department head and/or dean of the college which offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.

ADA and Academic Dishonesty Policies

Students are entitled to ‘reasonable accommodations’ under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Those in need of such accommodation should notify the instructor and make appropriate arrangements with the SDSU Office of Disabilities Services (145 Binnewies Hall, 688-4504 or 688-4032 TTD).

Any form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. You are subject to the academic dishonesty policy in the following section.

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences Academic Dishonesty Policy (Revised Nov. 2000)

The Department and the University have taken a strong and clear stand regarding academic dishonesty. We believe that it is unethical and unprofessional to present work done by others in a manner indicating that the student/s is/are presenting material as his/her original ideas or work; such activity is academic dishonesty. Plagiarizing or knowingly assisting others in plagiarizing on tests, quizzes, problems, assignments, research papers, theses, dissertations, or other academic activities is unacceptable behavior. All academic work completed by students is expected to be the original work of that individual student, unless permission is specifically granted beforehand by the faculty member for some form of team effort or other format. If students are unsure if a particular activity may be regarded as a form of academic dishonesty they should consult the faculty member before undertaking such an activity.

The University has a policy on academic honesty, procedures for academic grade and dishonesty appeals, and sanctions for such activities (see Student Code). The Student Code has different procedures for undergraduate and graduate students.

The Department policy described in this handout is intended to attempt to address perceived academic dishonesty violations between the faculty member/s and student/s before Student Code procedures are implemented. This is done because under Student Code procedures the minimum penalty for academic dishonesty is Disciplinary Probation. These added Department steps (Steps 1, 2, and 3 of the Undergraduate Student and Graduate Student Procedures) should not be construed as an attempt to circumvent the Student Code system; both students and/or the faculty member have the option to go directly into that system. The Department procedures portion of this policy are only available to a student one time; any second perceived offense will immediately follow the Student Code procedures.

Undergraduate Student Procedure

1. When a student/s is/are determined to have broken the Academic Dishonesty Policy, he/she will be notified verbally by the faculty member involved as to the problem and sanction selected. This is similar to procedures 02:02:01:03 and 02:02:01:04 in the Student Code. The faculty member will do this immediately after the perceived violation occurs. Sanction options available to the faculty member are as follows:
 - a. provide the student/s a grade of zero or some other score on the test, quiz, problem, assignment, or other academic endeavor involved;
 - b. provide the student/s a grade of "F" in the course;
 - c. request that the student/s withdraw from the course;
 - d. request that the student/s change the grading for the course to an "audit"; or
 - e. immediately refer the case to the Student Code procedures.

The sanction selected is at the discretion of the faculty member, based on the seriousness of the situation.

2. If the student/s agrees to the sanction proposed by the faculty member the process is completed.
3. If the student/s does not agree to the sanction proposed by the faculty member, he/she has the right to appeal the faculty member's decision. This Informal Phase Appeal should be made directly (both verbally and in writing) to the faculty member involved within 5 class days of notification or within 7 calendar days of notification, if the incident is at the end of the semester.

The faculty member may then modify or leave unchanged the sanction proposed in step 1. A copy of the student's written appeal and the faculty member's written response will be sent to the Department Head so that a confidential record to protect the student/s and the faculty member is established. The student/s written appeal and faculty member written response will be secured in the student's file until graduation or he/she leaves the program; if no further perceived violations have occurred these materials will be purged from the student's file.

4. If the student/s is/are still dissatisfied with the decision he/she can appeal to the Department Head. This Informal Phase Appeal should be made verbally. The Department Head will utilize this verbal appeal and the written student appeal and faculty written response described in step 3 to reach a decision. (These are steps 02:02:01:05, 02:02:01:06, and 02:02:01:07 in the Informal Phase Appeal process described in the Student Code).
5. If the student/s and faculty member agree with the Department Head's decision, the process is completed. Up to this point, no one other than the student/s, faculty member, and Department Head has been made aware of the situation.
6. If the student/s or faculty member is/are dissatisfied with the Department Head's decision they can enter the Formal Phase of the Student Code process (Student Code 02:02:02). It is the responsibility of the faculty member and student/s to be aware of the procedures and penalties involved.

¹The student's advisor may be included because items other than class work could be involved.