



Syllabus for AG17 Introduction to Soil Science

Course Information

Semester & Year: Spring 2023

Course ID and Section #: AG17-E4743

Instructor: Robert Landry

Course units: 3.00

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: HU-121

Office hours: M-W 11:30am-12:30pm and online by appointment

Phone number: 707.476.4573

Email address: robert-landry@redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

The study of soil physical, chemical and biological properties. Soil classification, derivation, use, function and management including erosion, moisture retention, structure, cultivation, organic matter and microbiology. Laboratory topics include soil type, classification, soil reaction, soil fertility and physical properties of soil. Laboratory required.

Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Evaluate parent rocks and other soil forming processes influences on local and global soils.
2. Discuss and understand the importance of essential plant nutrients.
3. Demonstrate and determine soil physical properties.
4. Analyze a soil's water holding capacity, water available to the plant, properties, and movement of water in soil.

Prerequisites/co-requisites/recommended preparation: ENGL1A - College Composition advised

Accessibility

College of the Redwoods is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or [Disability Services and Programs for Students](#) (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

If you are taking online classes DSPS will email approved accommodations for distance education classes to your instructor. In the case of face-to-face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the needed accommodation so that necessary arrangements can be made. Last minute arrangements or post-test adjustments usually cannot be accommodated.

Course delivery: This class is in person on Mon and Wed from 9am – 11:30am in room AT-108.

Student Commitment: Students should expect to spend roughly nine hours per week on the course. This will consist of attending lectures, completing assigned readings, participating in lab activities, and submitting assignments on time.

Computer Skills:

This course requires basic computer skills. Before beginning, make sure you can:

- navigate the course Learning Management System (Canvas) and websites as needed,
- receive and respond to your CR email,
- upload and download files using Canvas, and
- use a word processor (such as Microsoft Word or Pages).

Technology Requirements: You need to have reliable access to the internet for the duration of the course. Anticipate problems with your computer and internet access (including power outages) by not waiting until the last minute to submit assignments. It is your responsibility to meet the class deadlines.

Using Portable Devices to access the Canvas course: If you do decide to use your portable device for some of your class work, use the free Canvas app (called “Canvas Students”) available in iTunes (for iOS) and the Google Play Store (for Android). Do not try to connect to Canvas using a web browser on a portable device. Your experience with Canvas will be a lot better using the app.

Canvas Support Information

If using Canvas, include navigation instructions, tech support information, what Canvas is used for, and your expectation for how regularly students should check Canvas for your class.

Log into Canvas at <https://redwoods.instructure.com>

Password is your 8 digit birth date

For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160

Canvas Help for students: <https://webapps.redwoods.edu/tutorial/>

Canvas online orientation workshop: [Canvas Student Orientation Course \(instructure.com\)](https://redwoods.instructure.com/courses/12345/sections/12345/workshops/12345)

Exams: Exams will take place in person during the regular scheduled class time unless otherwise specified by your instructor.

Recommended Textbook: (not required) *Elements of the Nature and Properties of Soil*, 4th edition by Brady and Weil. ISBN: 9780133254594. Older editions are fine. All course materials provided by your instructor.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

Final course grade will be calculated as follows:

Assignment	Points
Unit Quizzes: 8 @ 25 points each	200
Unit Exams: 4 @ 50 points each	200
Lab Question Sets: 8 @ 20 points each	160
Lab Participation: 8 @ 10 points each	80
Unit Lab Write-Ups: 3 @ 20 points each	60
Total:	700

AG17 Introduction to Soil Science Course Schedule

*SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Week	Dates	Lecture topic	Reading	Important Dates
1	1/16 1/18	MLK Jr Holiday – No classes <i>Soils and their significance</i>		
2	1/23 1/25	<i>Soil Formation and Classification</i>	Ch. 2,3	
3	1/30 2/1	<i>Soil Physical Properties</i>	Ch. 4	Quiz 1
4	2/6 2/8	Review for unit exam Exam 1		Quiz 2, Exam 1
5	2/13 2/15	<i>Soil Colloids</i>	Ch. 8	
6	2/20 2/22	President's Day Holiday – No Classes <i>Soil Chemistry</i>	Ch. 9	Quiz 3
7	2/27 3/1	<i>Soil Chemistry</i> Review for unit exam		Quiz 4
8	3/6 3/8	Exam 2 <i>The Living Soil Documentary</i>		Exam 2
		Spring Break – No Classes		
9	3/20 3/22	<i>Soil-water relationships</i>	Ch. 5	
10	3/27 3/29	<i>Soil Organic Matter</i>	Ch. 10	Quiz 5
11	4/3 4/5	<i>Soil Organic Ecology</i>	Ch. 11	Quiz 6
12	4/10 4/12	Review for unit exam Exam 3		Exam 3
13	4/17 4/19	<i>Soil Fertility</i>	Ch. 12	
14	4/24 4/26	<i>Plant Nutrition</i>		Quiz 7
15	5/1 5/3	<i>Course Wrap-up</i> <i>Review for final exam</i>		Quiz 8
16	5/8	Final Exam @8:30am		

Student Support

Good information and clear communication about your needs will help you be successful. Please let your instructor know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. College of the Redwoods wants every student to be successful.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Spring 2023 Dates

- *Classes begin: 01/14/23*
- *Martin Luther King's Birthday (all campuses closed): 01/16/23*
- *Last day to add a class: 01/20/23*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 01/27/23*
- *Census date: 01/30/23 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 02/10/23*
- *Lincoln's Birthday (all campuses closed): 02/17/23*
- *President's Day (all campuses closed): 02/20/23*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 03/02/23*
- *Spring Break (no classes): 03/13/23 – 03/18/23*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 03/31/23*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 03/31/23*
- *Final examinations: 05/06/23 – 05/12/23*
- *Commencement: 05/15/23*
- *Semester ends: 05/12/23*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 05/26/23*

Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language; slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct ([AP 5500](#)) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the [College Catalog](#) and on the [College of the Redwoods website](#).

Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact [Admissions & Records](#) to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. This does not change your legal name in our records. See the [Student Information Update form](#).

Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges [Health & Wellness website](#).

[Wellness Central](#) is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

Emergency procedures / Everbridge

College of the Redwoods has implemented an emergency alert system called Everbridge. In the event of an emergency on campus you will receive an alert through your personal email and/or phones. Registration is not necessary in order to receive emergency alerts. Check to make sure your contact information is up-to-date by logging into WebAdvisor <https://webadvisor.redwoods.edu> and selecting 'Students' then 'Academic Profile' then 'Current Information Update.'

Please contact Public Safety at 707-476-4112 or security@redwoods.edu if you have any questions. For more information see the [Redwoods Public Safety Page](#).

In an emergency that requires an evacuation of the building anywhere in the District:

- Be aware of all marked exits from your area and building
- Once outside, move to the nearest evacuation point outside your building
- Keep streets and walkways clear for emergency vehicles and personnel

Do not leave campus, unless it has been deemed safe by the campus authorities.

Eureka Campus Emergency Procedures

Please review the [campus emergency map](#) for evacuation sites, including the closest site to this classroom (posted by the exit of each room). For more information on Public Safety go to the [CR Police Department-Public Safety](#). It is the responsibility of College of the Redwoods to protect life and property from the effects of emergencies within its own jurisdiction.

In the event of an emergency:

1. Evaluate the impact the emergency has on your activity/operation and take appropriate action.
2. Dial 911, to notify local agency support such as law enforcement or fire services.
3. Notify Public Safety 707-476-4111 and inform them of the situation, with as much relevant information as possible.
4. Public Safety shall relay threat information, warnings, and alerts through the Everbridge emergency alert system, Public address system, and when possible, updates on the college website, to ensure the school community is notified.
5. Follow established procedures for the specific emergency as outlined in the College of the Redwoods Emergency Procedure Booklet, (evacuation to a safe zone, shelter in place, lockdown, assist others if possible, cooperate with First Responders, etc.).
6. If safe to do so, notify key administrators, departments, and personnel.
7. Do not leave campus, unless it is necessary to preserve life and/or has been deemed safe by the person in command.

Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:

- [CR-Online](#) (Comprehensive information for online students)
- [Library Articles & Databases](#)
- [Canvas help and tutorials](#)
- [Online Student Handbook](#)

[Counseling](#) offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- [Academic Support Center](#) for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- [Library Services](#) to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- [Multicultural & Diversity Center](#)

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- [Extended Opportunity Programs & Services \(EOPS\)](#) provides services to eligible income disadvantaged students including: textbook award, career academic and personal counseling, school supplies, transportation assistance, tutoring, laptop, calculator and textbook loans, priority registration, graduation cap and gown, workshops, and more!
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in [Eureka](#) or in [Del Norte](#)
- The [Veteran's Resource Center](#) supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.