



Syllabus for Introduction to Environmental Science

Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2022

Course ID & Section #: ENVSC-10-E4304

Instructor's name: Maria Morrow

Required meetings: *Lab*: Tues 1:15PM- 4:25PM, Room: SC-SC104

Lecture: Tues, Thurs 10:05AM-11:30AM, Room: SC-SC208

Course units: 4.0

Instructor Contact Information

Office location: SCI 216-D (upstairs, go in the door by the drop box, back left corner)

Office hours: Thursdays 11:30-1

Phone number: (707) 476-4472

Email address: Maria-Morrow@Redwoods.edu

Catalog Description

Introduction to environmental issues from a scientific perspective, focusing on physical, chemical, and biological processes within the Earth system, the interaction between humans and these processes, and the role of science in finding sustainable solutions. Topics include ecological principles, biodiversity, climate change, sustainability, renewable and non-renewable energy, water resources, air and water pollution, and solid waste management. Note: Field trips are required and transportation is not provided.

Course Student Learning Outcomes *(from course outline of record)*

1. Apply the process of science to analyze major environmental issues at a variety of scales, identify potential solutions for these issues, and evaluate the viability of these solutions.
2. Analyze and interpret quantitative data and visual representations of data describing an environmental issue.
3. Describe relationships between human actions and environmental issues and predict potential outcomes of these interactions.
4. LAB: Analyze and interpret human influences on an ecosystem in the field.

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.

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.

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.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

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.

Canvas 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 \(instructure.com\)](#)

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.

Evaluation & Grading Policy

This course will have several different assessment methods, but will be primarily project-based.

Types of Assessment

Lecture quizzes: We'll be using a flipped lecture style – this means you'll watch the lecture videos before coming to class, then we'll talk about the content and dig deeper into it during our lecture time. To ensure you are actually doing this, we'll have short quizzes at the start of most lectures that should be easy, if you've watched the videos.

Benchmark projects: Every 5 weeks, we will have a benchmark project. These are projects that synthesize knowledge and skills you have acquired during the course, thus far. They are also tangible products that you can use in a future portfolio as evidence of your work and accomplishments during this course.

These projects are collaborative and teamwork is a big part of your grade, so make sure you are being a good teammate! This means communicating regularly and effectively, completing your portion of the project, and getting your work done in the timeframe that your group decides on. You will submit a rubric evaluating the performance of each of your groupmates (and they will do the same for you) so everyone will be accountable for participation and cooperation.

Capstone project: Your capstone project is something you will complete on your own and will have agency to decide what the project will be. For example, you may choose to do a research project on trends in amphibian populations in northern California, write a literature review about pond restoration or the impact of some invasive species on pond ecosystems, create an interpretive project about one of the groups we have studied (ex. a poster, an audio tour, an ID guide...), or something else you think is important and interesting. This will be due during finals week, but you will have the opportunity to start working on it much earlier in the semester.

How You Will Be Assessed

Projects will be scored using a combination of rubrics. In group projects, you'll have the opportunity to evaluate your group mates, as well as your own contributions. All of these will be based on the following job skills that are necessary to be an environmental scientist. While you may not be interested in going into that field, I think you will see that these categories are broadly applicable to many situations:

Analytical skills. Environmental scientists often use scientific methods and data analysis in their research. They base their conclusions on careful analysis of scientific data. They must consider all possible methods, interactions and solutions in their analyses.

Critical-thinking skills. Environmental scientists must draw logical conclusions from observations, laboratory experiments, and other methods of research. They base their findings on sound observation and careful evaluation of data.

Interpersonal skills. Environmental scientists typically work on teams with scientists, engineers, and technicians. Team members must be able to work together effectively to achieve their goals.

Problem-solving skills. Environmental scientists try to find the best possible solution to problems that affect environment and cultures. They must be able to identify and anticipate problems to prevent losses for their employers, safeguard workers' health, and mitigate environmental and cultural impacts.

Writing skills. Environmental scientists write technical papers, reports and articles that explain their methods, findings, and recommendations.

Speaking skills. Environmental scientists must be able to explain their findings to clients, professionals, or community members who do not have expertise in their area. They often give presentations to colleagues, managers, policymakers, and the general public.

Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2022 Dates

- *Classes begin: 8/20/22*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/26/22*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/02/22*
- *Labor Day Holiday (all campuses closed): 09/05/22*
- *Census date: 9/06/22 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 09/16/22*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/27/22*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Last day for faculty-initiated W (no refund): 10/28/22*
- *Veteran's Day (all campuses closed): 11/11/22*

- *Fall Break (no classes): 11/21/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Thanksgiving Holiday (all campuses closed): 11/23/22 – 11/25/22*
- *Final examinations: 12/10/22 – 12/16/22*
- *Semester ends: 12/16/22*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 01/06/23*

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.