

BRAZOSPORT COLLEGE

SYLLABUS for Fall 2015

Environmental Science 1: ENVR 1101 **ONLINE** Lab

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Webpage: <https://online.brazosport.edu> login with your BC username & password and click on the course link for “**BIOL1101-ISCHAUER-Online**”

MATERIALS REQUIRED

At-Home Lab Kit: Home Science Tools kit catalog #7-2000-10 = \$46.95 (also available in the BC Bookstore)

Equipment Check-Out: \$50 refundable deposit for Multifunction Digital Multi-meter

Instructions on receiving Multifunction Digital Meter: The digital multi-function meters are available for check-out (with \$50 deposit) at the Cashier's office in the Main building at BC. When you've completed all labs requiring the meters, you will return them directly to the Cashier's office. The Cashier's office hours & contact numbers can be found here: <http://www.brazosport.edu/BusinessServices/Cashier/Pages/default.aspx>

If the equipment is damaged or broken, your refund may be less than \$50.

Course Description

Environmental Science 1 is a study of the fundamental principles of environmental systems including environmental chemistry, ethics, and economics. Human population growth, soils, toxicology, and resource management will also be discussed. An emphasis will be placed on local ecosystems and individual responsibility.

Course Goals

1. Understand and apply methods and appropriate technology to the study of natural sciences.
2. Recognize scientific and quantitative methods and the differences between these approaches and other methods of inquiry and to communicate findings.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the major issues and problems facing modern science, including issues that touch upon ethics, values, and public policies.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the interdependence of science and technology and their influence on, and contribution to, modern culture.

KEYS TO SUCCESS

1. Plan a specific study time for this course and **stick to it**. Plan for **12-15 hr of study time** for Environmental Science per week.
2. Read the chapters **before** listening to the lectures.
3. Complete textbook end-of-chapter **study reviews** promptly after each chapter is covered.
4. **Don't wait** until the night before to study for a test.
5. Join or start a **study group**!
6. Ask lots of **questions**!

GRADING

Your course grade will be determined by adding the points earned in lab.

300 points maximum from **11 Labs**:

11 labs, scanned results, lab reports, and questions

30 points each

Lowest lab score dropped

READ ME!!!! To receive credit for lab work: upload your completed lab work to the lab-designated D2L drop box by the due dates listed for each lab below on the calendar. **Scan your handwritten sheets and save as a PDF** (use a free smart phone app, like CamScanner, or a more-reliable-but-not-free one, like Scanner Pro which I use, if you don't have access to a standard scanner). **For photodocumentation, drop the image files into Word or PowerPoint, adjust size and compress them** (using Picture Tools Format menu, 'Compress Pictures' option). This needs to occur, because if files are too large, D2L won't let you upload them. (Please ***do not*** upload individual image files for each lab.) **Lab handouts lose 20% of the available points each day late.**

GRADING SCALE

Points from lecture and lab will be totaled and your grade determined as follows:

Percentage of points earned	Letter grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
Less than 60%	F

Fall 2015 Envr Sci 1101 Lab Schedule

Lab	Timeframe	Due Date (by	Experimental	All Needed Materials are Posted
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	for completion	11:30 pm in D2L Dropbox)	Topic	on D2L
1	Aug 24 – 30	Aug 31	Safety Info	PowerPoint with questions last slide
2	Aug 31 – Sept 6	Sept 7 & Oct 6	Environmental Awareness	Handout with instructions (requires Multi-Function Digital meter)
3	Sept 7 – 13	Sept 14	Environmental Site Inspection	Handout with instructions (requires Multi-Function Digital meter)
4	Sept 14 – 20	Sept 21	Wildlife Friendly Campus	Handout with instructions (requires Multi-Function Digital meter)
5	Sept 21 – 27	Sept 28	Yes Men Fix the World	Handout with instructions & video link
6	Sept 28 – Oct 4	Oct 5	Science & the Media	Handout with instructions & Librarian Presentation video posted
7	Oct 5 – 11	Oct 12	Dust Bowl	Handout with instructions & video link
8	Oct 12 – 18	Oct 19	<i>Homo toxicus</i>	Handout with instructions & video link
9	Oct 19 – 25	Oct 26	Human Lifespan (Cemetery visit)	Handout with instructions & PDF Lab Manual pages posted
10	Oct 26 – Nov 1	Nov 2	Panama Canal	Handout with instructions & video link
11	Nov 2 – 8	Nov 9	Coulee Dam	Handout with instructions & video link
Lab Course concludes on Nov 9; no further assignments; use time to complete EC lab				

LAB ASSIGNMENTS (out of 300 points):

Lab #1 (30 points)	_____
Lab #2 (30 points)	_____
Lab #3 (30 points)	_____
Lab #4 (30 points)	_____
Lab #5 (30 points)	_____
Lab #6 (30 points)	_____
Lab #7 (30 points)	_____
Lab #8 (30 points)	_____
Lab #9 (30 points)	_____
Lab #10 (30 points)	_____
Lab #11 (30 points)	_____
B. TOTAL	_____

FIGURING MY GRADE AT ANY TIME IN THE SEMESTER:

1. Add the points you've received thus far.
2. Divide by the total points available thus far.
3. Multiple by 100 to get your current percentage

LAB MECHANICS

Lab will consist of a variety of learning methods, including observation, outdoor exercises, hands-on experiments & documentaries. **You will complete these labs**

independently. You may also work with a lab partner or lab group of fellow classmates. However, this collaboration **does not give** students the **license** to copy answers, thoughts, or observations from their lab partners; it simply fosters working together towards a common goal (see *Academic Honesty* section for more details on this subject). **The timeframe for completion below in the Schedule is a suggestion, due dates are NOT a suggestion, but rather firmly set. You must answer all questions for full credit. Each lab is worth 30 points total. The lowest lab is dropped. 300 total points are possible.** **To receive credit for lab work:** you'll upload your lab reports and completed work to the D2L drop box by the due dates listed for each lab. If labs are not turned in on-time, **20%** of the points are subtracted from your score (or 6 points out of the 30 points possible) for each day it is late.

For labs requiring a video, look for a free version online if my links are broken, or swing by the BC Library as we have copies of each PBS: American Experience video for check-out.

Extra Credit opportunity (15 points): Check out the DVD “PBS American Experience: Hoover Dam” from your neighborhood library or the BC Library (caution: only 2 copies), watch it and answer the question sheet posted on D2L and turn it in by the end of the semester.

Participation policy: This is College. You, your family member, or the government are paying \$\$\$ to learn this material. Thus, all students are expected to **fully participate** in this course every day/week online. If you have an immediate family or personal emergency which may result in missing an Exam, **contact me in advance or as soon as possible** so that your options may be discussed.

Withdrawal policy: The Brazosport College Life Sciences Department and I think that participation in both lecture and lab is **critical** for the **comprehension** of material. However, I will not withdraw you from the course for lack of attendance. You must withdraw yourself from the course if you so choose.

Authority clause and Behavior policy: You are all now considered **adults**, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities therein. The College and your instructor will assume that all of you know how to conduct yourself in a respectful, polite, and college-level appropriate behavioral manner. Habitual or repeated disruptive online behavior of any type **WILL** result in the **loss of Course points** at my discretion and **may lead to withdrawal** from the course at my discretion.

Academic honesty policy: The College and your instructor will assume that students eligible to perform at the college level are familiar with, and will abide by, the standard rules governing legal and appropriate conduct, especially with regard to academic honesty. Please refer to the Brazosport College Student Guide for more information. This

is available online at <http://www.brazosport.edu>. Briefly, **the central principle of academic honesty is that all work presented for a grade by you is yours only and yours alone.** Academic dishonesty violates both the policies of this course and the Student Code of Conduct. Each student must do their **own work** (*meaning not written by someone else or copied from another individual*) on lecture exams and writing assignments. Academic dishonesty therefore includes, but is not limited to: cheating in any way, plagiarism of published or online material of any kind, and collusion (allowing or enabling a fellow student to cheat). **Let me be crystal clear: Cheating is NOT TOLERATED,** under any context, in lecture or in lab. **If you are caught cheating, plagiarizing, colluding to cheat you will be referred to the Dean of Student Services for review and assignment of punishment, which can include an F on the assignment/Exam in question, an F in the course, or (in rare cases or repetitive academic dishonesty) suspension.** If you are having trouble understanding any concepts or assignments please **come to talk to me before your resort to cheating or colluding.**

Student services provided by Brazosport College: To contact the Math/Science Division call (979) 230-3225. Information about the College Library is available on the website or by calling (979) 230-3310. The Student Services area provides the following services: Counseling and Advising at (979) 230-3040; Financial Aid at (979) 230-3294; and Student Activities at (979) 230-3355. Tutoring for Math, Reading, Writing, Environmental Science, Chemistry, and other subjects is available in the Student Success Center; please call (979) 230-3527 for more information.

Students with disabilities: Brazosport College is committed to providing equal education opportunities to every student. BC offers services for individuals with special needs and capabilities including counseling, tutoring, equipment, and software to assist students with special needs. Please contact Phil Robertson, Special Populations Counselor, at (979) 230-3236 for further information.

Availability of your Instructor on Fridays, Weekends, or Holidays: Unless indicated otherwise by your instructor during class, your instructor is not available by phone or email on Fridays – Weekends – or Holidays. Expect a **return phone call** or **email reply** from your instructor **ONLY** during standard business hours, Office hours, or hours listed on his Semester schedule posted for each class he teaches on the next business day. (<http://www.brazosport.edu/sites/CurrentStudents/Faculty/IsaiahSchauer/Pages/default.aspx>) With regard to phone calls, your instructor ***only returns calls made by students who leave voicemail messages.***