GEOL 1120
Environmental Geoscience

Instructor: Dr. Adam Milewski, Room 134 or 122, GGS Building, Phone: 706-542-4263
e-mail: milewski@uga.edu

Office Hours: By Appointment, but walk-ins are welcome. Communication by email encouraged.

Textbook: Environmental Science: Systems and Solutions. (Fifth Edition)
Editor: M.L McKinney, R.M. Schoch, L. Yonavjak
Publisher: Jones and Bartlett.

Lectures: Room 200A, 2nd Floor (T/TH: 12:30 – 1:45 P.M.) Geology/Geography Building

GRADING:

*Three Exams  45%
Final Exam  30%
**Quizzes/Homework (~8)  20%
Attendance & Class Participation  5%

*I will drop the lowest Exam grade of the three
**I will drop the lowest quiz/homework

The assignment of individual grades will be based on the student performance relative to their peers. This means that the assignment of A, B, C, D, F grades will be based on the overall class performance in the exam(s). Simply stated, a student may earn a “C” grade with a score of <75%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>86-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-85</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>76-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-75</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;59</td>
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EXAMS: No make-up exams will be given for unexcused absences. In the case of an unanticipated absence to an exam or announced quiz, excuse from a physician or the office of students’ affairs, 201 Academic Building will be necessary in order to be given a make up. Make up exams will not necessarily follow the same format as the exam given to the rest of the class. All scores and grades will be posted electronically, unless a written request not to post them is submitted by the student. Individual grades posted electronically will be accessible to the student and instructors only.

ATTENDANCE: You are expected to attend all lectures and be present in class BEFORE the lecture starts. The instructor should be notified immediately a problem arises that would prevent you from attending a lecture session. Attendance will be checked at random. Excuses for absences older than two weeks will not be accepted. Students with excessive absences (5 unexcused absences by midpoint, 10 for
the quarter) will be withdrawn from the class with an F or WF at the discretion the Instructor. Unjustified
absences to exams in excess of two will result in the student being administratively withdrawn (W or WF)
from the class at the discretion of the instructor. Conflicts with final exam schedule should be cleared
with the instructor at least ten days to the exam date.

**LECTURES:** Lectures will follow the course outline closely. Reading assignments should be
completed prior to the class lectures. This will help in the understanding of new concepts developed
during the lecture. Questions are welcome at any point of the lecture. Feel very free to raise your hand
and you will be given an opportunity to ask a question at any point during the lecture. Tests/Exams will
be based on both reading assignments and lectures.

Any behavior that disrupts lectures will not be condoned (for example, walking in and out of class during
lectures, reading newspapers and/or eating and drinking, conversing with another student, cell phone
rings, text messaging, etc.). Please respect your colleagues and do not distract others during lectures.

**Readings:** The various topics listed below are all explained in the textbooks and supplement approved
for this class. Other texts that discuss these topics are available at the Science and General Libraries.
Make sure your readings are finished before each topic is discussed in class. Talk to your instructor if you
do not understand any topic after you have read the textbook and attended the lectures.

**Note Taking:** The Instructor will mostly use electronic media, overheads and power point for lectures
and will be posted on eLC, from which you may take notes as desired.

**Course Description and Objectives:** Exploration of various effects on Earth's long-term physical-
chemical systems caused by human consumption and pollution of its vital resources and emphasize
environmental and geological issues critical to earth’s sustainability. Population growth and technology
cause rapid changes to our planet at much faster rates than the geologic time it needs to recover. We will
explore various effects on Earth's long-term physical-chemical systems caused by human consumption
and pollution of its vital resources and emphasize environmental and geological issues critical to earth’s
sustainability.

The course is structured to satisfy the environmental curiosity and awareness of science and non-science
majors. Class lectures and discussions will familiarize the students with the earth’s rapidly changing
environment due to human use and abuse. We will examine environmental practices on the sustainable
use of our planet’s resources. Class discussions will include the latest environmental news.

At the end of this course, the student is expected to understand (a) - how matter cycles through
the Earth’s systems over time, (b) - the importance of the environmental processes in
the global environment, (c) – the impact of humans on the natural environment (d) – possible solutions
for a sustainable Earth.
Course Outline**

Intro. to course; Overview of Environmental Science  
Environmental Science  
Environmental Science/Human Population  
Human Population (Q/HW #1)  
Biosphere  
Biosphere  
Distribution of Life on Earth  
Distribution of Life on Earth (Q/HW #2)  
Exam 1  
Dynamic Earth & Natural Hazards  
Dynamic Earth & Natural Hazards  
Humans & Natural Resources  
Humans & Natural Resources (Q/HW #3)  
Energy Resources: Nuclear Power  
Renewable and Alternative Energy Resources  
Renewable and Alternative Energy Resources (Q/HW #4)  
Exam 2  
Water Resources  
Water Resources  
Water Resources (Nubian Aquifer)(Q/HW #5)  
Mineral Resources  
Mineral Resources  
Conserving Biological Resources  
Land Resources & Management  
Land resources & management (Q/HW #6)  
Exam 3  
Food and Soil Resources  
Principles of Pollution Control/ Water Pollution (Q/HW #7)  
Thanksgiving Break: no class  
Thanksgiving Break: no class  
Local & Regional Air Pollution  
Solid Waste and Hazardous Waste (Q/HW #8)  
Review  
Final Exam

University Honor Code and Academic Honesty Policy

As a University of Georgia student, you have agreed to abide by the University’s academic honesty policy, “A Culture of Honesty,” and the Student Honor Code. All academic work must meet the standards described in “A Culture of Honesty” found at: www.uga.edu/honesty. Lack of knowledge of the academic honesty policy is not a reasonable explanation for a violation. Questions related to course assignments and the academic honesty policy should be directed to the instructor.

Note:

If you have a diagnosed disability (physical, learning, or psychological) which will make it difficult for you to carry out the course as outlined, or requires accommodations, please advise me during the first few weeks of the course so we may review possible arrangements.

**The course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.