**ECOSPHERE IN CRISIS**

Biology 104, Spring 2017

8:00-9:00 MWF Sage 1210

Dr. Bob Stelzer, Professor

**Contact information**

# Office Hours Location Phone e-mail

Mon. 10:30-11:30 Halsey 150 424-0845 stelzer@uwosh.edu

Wed. 3:00-4:00

and by appointment

## Required materials

Lecture—*Environmental Science: A Global Concern* by William P. Cunningham and Mary Ann

Cunningham (13th edition).

You can purchase either the hard copy or electronic version (ebook). To purchase the ebook see below:

<https://www.vitalsource.com/products/environmental-science-cunningham-william-v0073515841>

Lab—see your lab instructor

**Course objectives**

1. To understand the ways in which humans affect the environment and the ways in

which the environment affects humans

2. To be able to apply knowledge of interactions between humans and the environment to

new events and scenarios

3. To be able to identify environmental problems and opportunities and to consider ways to address them

4. To learn more about the role of science and scientists in society

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Knowledge of the physical and natural world

2. Knowledge of sustainability and its applications

3. Knowledge of local ecosystems. The ecosystems may include forests, wetlands, and streams.

These learning outcomes will be assessed with exams, quizzes, and opportunities for discussion in lecture and with quizzes, lab reports, discussions, and field trips in lab.

**USP Explore Course**

Ecosphere in Crisis fulfills an EXPLORE course requirement for UW Oshkosh’s general education program (USP- University Studies Program). Explore courses, including Bio 104,contribute to a broad-based liberal arts education that UW Oshkosh offers. The breadth of a liberal arts education allows students to make informed decisions based on knowledge from a wide range of disciplines (e.g. philosophy, art, history, economics, science). A liberal arts education increases a person’s ability to view problems and opportunities from multiple perspectives and can increase the effectiveness of communication and problem solving with diverse groups of people. Plus, a liberal arts education will allow you to have more interesting conversations at social gatherings ☺

**How to do well**

If you want to do well in Bio 104 I recommend that you:

1. Do not miss lecture or lab!

2. Take careful notes in class. Consider processing and studying your notes throughout the week, well before exam week.

3. Read all of the assigned chapters from lecture

4. Use your notes and readings to study and synthesize the material for the exams.

5. Participate fully in all lab activities.

In lecture we will not cover all of the material in the textbook but we will emphasize important aspects of your reading assignments. You will also be introduced to other material not found in your textbook. I will post an outline of each lecture on D2L, usually the day before the material is covered in class. I provide this outline to show how the material to be presented is organized. I recommend that you keep a separate set of notes for lecture, rather than directly taking all of your notes on the outline.

Lecture exams will include material from lecture *and* from your textbook, with emphasis on lecture. Material from readings that your lecture instructor posts on-line may also be included on exams. Material from lab will *not* be included on lecture exams. Your exam grades will be posted on D2L, typically within three to four days after an exam.

There will be 4 or 5 unannounced quizzes in lecture. These quizzes may cover material from the assigned readings or lecture material. Quizzes cannot be made up even for excused absences. However, your lowest quiz grade will be dropped when determining your total points at the end of the semester.

You will receive a single grade for Bio 104. Your lecture percentage will contribute 2/3 towards your overall percentage. Lab will contribute 1/3 towards your overall percentage.

The point breakdown for lecture is as follows:

Activity Possible Points

Exam 1 100

Exam 2 100

Exam 3 100

Exam 4 100

Quizzes 60 (total)

**Grading Scale**

Final grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

A 91-100 A- 89-90 B+ 87-88 B 80-86 B- 78-79 C+ 76-77

C 70-75 C- 68-69 D+ 66-67 D 60-65 D- 58-59 F <58

**Make up Exam Policy**

Exams must be taken at their scheduled dates and times as indicated in the Lecture Schedule. Make-up exams will be given only if there is a valid, documented excuse for missing the scheduled exam (e.g., debilitating illness accompanied by a physician’s note). To be eligible to take a make-up exam a student must notify the lecture instructor within one day after the scheduled exam. If you know that you will miss an exam ahead of time for a university-sanctioned event (e.g. athletic competition, Model UN meeting), military obligation, or medical reason you will need to notify the instructor before the scheduled exam to arrange to take a make-up exam.

Vacations, attending weddings, and oversleeping are examples of invalid excuses for missing an exam. If you miss an exam with an invalid excuse you may or may not be granted permission to take a make-up exam. If you are allowed to take a make-up exam and have an invalid excuse you will receive a 25% point deduction on the exam. All make-up exams will be administered in the Testing Center, seven days after the scheduled exam date (the make-up exam for the March 17 exam will take place on March 27). You are responsible for contacting the lecture instructor about scheduling a make-up exam. Make-up exams will not be identical to regular exams. Your lab instructor will provide information about the policy for missed lab activities.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students who have physical or learning disabilities who wish to request academic adjustments should notify Disabilities Services so that appropriate accommodations can be made. For more information contact Disabilities Services in the Dean of Students Office (www.uwosh.edu/deanofstudents/disability-services**) or see your instructor.**

**Academic Integrity:** If you decide to cheat on an exam or to engage in other forms of academic dishonesty you will be subject to the Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures as outlined in the Student Disciplinary Code-www.uwosh.edu/stuaff/images/student-discipline-code.

**Cell phones**

Cell phones or similar hand-held devices must be turned off and packed away at all times during the lecture period. If you need to have a cell phone on for some urgent reason (e.g. to receive an emergency message) you will need to ask about this ahead of time and turn your phone to the vibrate setting.

**Academic Resources**

There are several different ways to receive academic assistance in Bio 104.

First, for lecture you can speak with Professor Stelzer in class or arrange to meet with him outside of class. For lab please contact your lab instructor.

Second, The Center for Academic Resources (CAR) provides free, confidential tutoring for students in most undergraduate classes on campus. CAR is located in the Student Success Center, Suite 102. Check the Tutor List page on CAR’s website (www.uwosh.edu/car) for a list of tutors. If your course is not listed, click on a link to request one, stop by SSC 102 or call 424-2290. To schedule a tutoring session, simply email the tutor, let him/her know what class you are seeking assistance in, and schedule a time to meet. Tutoring takes place in SSC 102. The Center for Academic Resources may also provide support for Bio 104 students through Supplemental Instruction (SI) and the Peer Educator program. Visit the website for more information.

Third, The Reading Study Center provides strategies for improved textbook study, time management, note taking and test preparation ([www.uwosh.edu/readingstudycenter](http://www.uwosh.edu/readingstudycenter))

Fourth, During the 5th week of class you will receive an email with an “Early Alert” notification concerning your overall progress in this course. The Early Alert Reports will indicate if students have academic performance or attendance issues and are designed to help you evaluate your study skills and your class attendance so that you know if you are on the right track. If you need to make some changes, there are resources (see above) available to support your academic success. The Early Alert grade assignments are not permanent and will not appear on your transcript.

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| **Date** | **Chapter** | **Topic** |
| Jan 30 | pp 1-11, Chp. 1 | Introduction |
| Feb. 1 | 2 | Science and Scientific Discovery |
| Feb. 3 | 2; Flint water  crisis articles | Science and Society– small group discussions |
| Feb. 6 | 1 | History of Environmental Science |
| Feb. 8 | 3 | Matter, Energy & Life |
| Feb. 10 | 4 | Film: Charles Darwin and the Tree of Life |
| Feb. 13 | 4 | Species and Communities |
| Feb. 15 |  | *Guest Lecture: Dr. Steve Dunn (College of Business)- Sustainable Management* |
| Feb. 17 | 5 | Ecosystems |
| Feb. 20 |  | *Exam Review* |
| Feb. 22 |  | **Exam 1** |
| Feb. 24 | 13 | Restoration Ecology |
| Feb. 27 | 6 | Population Dynamics |
| March 1 | 7 | Human Populations |
| March 3 | 9, 10 | Food and Agriculture I |
| March 6 | 10 | Food and Agriculture II |
| March 8 | 11 | Biodiversity I |
| March 10 |  | Film: Food Inc. |
| March 13 | 11 | Biodiversity II |
| March 15 |  | *Exam Review* |
| March 17 |  | **Exam 2** |
|  |  | Spring Break! (March 20-24) |
| March 27 | 12 | Land Use and Conservation |
| March 29 |  | *Guest Lecture: Ms. Deborah Nett- Northeast Wisconsin Land Trust* |
| March 31 | 17 | Water Quantity and Use |
| April 3 | 18 | Water Quality |
| Apr. 5 |  | Great Lakes |
| Apr. 7 | 15 | Climate and Global Climate Change |
| Apr. 10 | 15 | Effects of Global Climate Change on Ecosystems |
| Apr. 12 |  | *Exam Review* |
| Apr. 14 |  | **Exam 3** |
| Apr. 17 | 16 | Air Pollution (Earth Week begins) |
| Apr. 19 | 19 | Conventional Energy |
| Apr. 21 | 20 | Sustainable Energy (Earth Day) |
| Apr. 24 | 22 | Urbanization & Growth of Cities |
| Apr. 26 | 21 | Solid Waste |
| Apr. 28 | 21 | Waste Reduction and Recycling |
| May 1 | 23 | Ecological Economics |
| May 3 | 24 | Environmental Policy |
| May 5 | TBD | Topic to be announced |
| May 8 |  | *Exam Review* |
| May 10 |  | **Exam 4** |