Environmental Science 271 - Spring 2016
Tuesdays 9:00am to 10:45am
Updated: 2/19/16

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Course web site:
http://www.geography.hunter.cuny.edu/tbw/nysid/NYSID.htm

Text:

Course Description:
This course deals with issues such as the disruption of basic ecosystems by human intervention: demography, overpopulation, and hunger; atmospheric and climatic change due to global warming and depletion of the ozone layer; the impact of urbanization on agriculture; the destruction of rainforests and its implication for future systems; resource depletion, energy use, and sustainability; and how public and governmental decisions shape environmental policies.

Introduction:
Basic material covered in the course includes:

- *Sustainability, ecology, ecosystems and the biosphere*.
- Effects of human population growth.
- Resources: energy, minerals, water, air.
- Pollution: air, water, land, hazardous chemicals, solid wastes.
- Land use, wilderness, national parks.
- Global issues: ozone layer, climatic warming, nuclear energy and others.
- Historical basis of the environmental movement.
- Introduction to “green” design for interior designers.

Educational Objectives:
Understanding of:

- Scientific methodology
- Ecology, ecosystems and the biosphere
- Resources: energy, minerals, water, air.
- Pollution: air, water, land, hazardous chemicals, solid wastes
- Land use, wilderness, national parks
- Global issues: ozone layer, climatic warming, nuclear energy, etc.
- Historical basis of the environmental movement
- Concepts, principles and theories of sustainability as they pertain to building methods, materials, systems and occupants
**Grading:**
- Exam #1 essay/multiple choice exam 30%
- Exam #2 essay/multiple choice exam 40%
- (7) essay quizzes 30%

**Exams & Quizzes:**
There will be essay exams and quizzes. If your written English is not at the college level it is highly recommended you enlist help at the NYSID Writing Center immediately.

There will be seven (7) essay quizzes that begin promptly at 9:00am for a period of 15 minutes. If you arrive to class during the quiz you may take the quiz but the quiz ends at 9:15am. No make-up quizzes will be given for any reason.

There will be two exams of one hour duration (from 9:00am to 10:00am) consisting of essays and multiple choice questions. The exams will begin promptly at 9:00am and end at 10:00am. If you arrive late you’ll have less time to complete the exam. Make-up exams are not normally given except in extraordinary situations.

**Attendance/Lateness:**
After two (2) absences you will have 5% deducted from your final course average for each additional absence. Attendance is taken at the beginning of class. Students arriving after attendance has been taken will be considered late. Each late arrival after two will result in 2.5% deducted from your final course average.

**Academic Policies:**
Students are reminded that it is their responsibility to review and be familiar with all sections of the NYSID Student Handbook regarding academic policies, with special attention to Academic Honesty and Behavior Code, and Grading Description and standards. NYSID policies on plagiarism and grading are in the NYSID Student Handbook, which may be found on the NYSID web portal.

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**Schedule subject to change**

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