

## Biology 110 – People and Nature, 3 credits

**Semester:** PACE Winter 2016

**Meeting location:** Schofield Barracks

**Meeting time:** Thursday, 5:30 - 9:40PM

**Instructor:** Michael Dohm PhD

**Office:** Henry 6

**Phone:** 739-8543 (x8543)

**E-mail:** [mdohm@chaminade.edu](mailto:mdohm@chaminade.edu)

**Office Hours:** Use the Ask Dr Dohm forum; Tues 9-11AM, 1-2 PM; or by appointment

**No required textbook:** Assigned readings will be provided by the instructor throughout the semester.

**Recommended textbook:** *Environmental Science for Dummies*, by Alecia Spooner (ISBN-13: 978-1118167144).

**Electronics:** It is the general policy of Chaminade NSM that personal electronics are not permitted in the classroom, but discretion is permitted to the instructor. As your instructor I encourage you to bring your laptops, tablets, and or smartphones, subject to restrictions imposed by Schofield Barracks policy. Use of these electronics are to facilitate and enhance your learning about subjects in the class. Other uses are not encouraged. I will not be able to provide you with computers for your use.

**Course website and online forum:** I use a web-enhanced approach to teaching People & Nature. The website is at <http://www.letgen.org/chaminade>. There you will find media including copies of any lecture slides used in the course, links to readings and other materials we need, and additional information to support the learning process. We will also host a forum, "Ask Dr Dohm," in which questions and discussions can be maintained between our meeting times.

Use of the website is optional, but strongly encouraged. Any graded activities that may appear on the secured website may be obtained as paper copies by request. The website is administered and maintained by the instructor and is not associated with Chaminade University. All questions about the website are to be addressed to the instructor and not PACE or other Chaminade IT personnel. For best user experience, the instructor recommends that Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome browsers are to be used.

To access the website, browse to <http://www.letgen.org/chaminade>, select your course, and logon with your user name and initial password. You'll immediately be prompted to change the password. Your username and password will be sent to you before the semester starts or at our first meeting.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to introduce you to Environmental Science, a discipline that is devoted to the study of our relationship to the natural environment. We study the interactions among the biotic (animals, plants, etc.) and the abiotic (air, water, light, etc.) components of the environment. Environmental Science is also concerned with approaches to manage the natural environment. Thus, we will discuss ideas and information from both the natural sciences (e.g., biology, geology, physics, chemistry, etc.) and the social sciences (e.g., economics, politics, ethics, etc.) to try to gain an understanding of our present relationship with the environment, what historical events have brought us here, and what we must accomplish to continue our survival.

**Program outcome:** This course will introduce students to the foundational concepts of biodiversity, population-level processes, renewable and nonrenewable resources, and

environmental economics. Students will enhance abilities to identify their environmental worldview and to discuss local and global aspects of sustainable environmental practices.

**Student learning outcomes:** On completion of this course, students will be able to

1. explain and apply the scientific method including designing and conducting experiments and testing hypotheses.
2. define and explain the processes of our natural environment.
3. recognize and define relationships among all living things and their non-living environment.
4. recognize and define our past and present relationship with the environment and the possible affects of these relationships on our future.
5. communicate our environmental problems to enable more informed political and economic decisions in oral and written form.

**Course assessment:**

Grading for this course will be based on your scores from exams, quizzes, and from attendance and your participation.

Exams: There are three planned exams, each worth 130 points. Exams will include multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. The exams are closed book, but you will be permitted to bring and use one **hand-written** note page (8 ½ X 11 inches, one side only): this may contain anything you think will help you for the exam. You will turn in the “cheat-sheet” along with your exam. Each exam covers several chapters.

What the exams cover: Exams cover material from your readings, from any media presented, and from our lectures and discussions. Exam 2 and 3 are cumulative; concepts, definitions from previous chapters may be included.

Worksheets: We will have in-class work to do to facilitate class discussion. These “worksheets” may range from Internet searches, reviews of video, and group activities. Group activities may consist of brief oral reports and or short written reports. Worksheets do not receive separate grades but are included as part of evidence for your participation.

Quizzes: There will be a total of five quizzes, each worth 10 points. Quizzes will be multiple choice and or true/false covering up to 3 chapters. Quizzes will be closed book, closed notes and will be conducted in class.

Participation includes asking questions, bringing news items to our attention, and offering and discussing opinions about the material presented. **Attendance will be taken each time we meet.** You are expected to visit, comment on, and provide discussion on the Ask Dr Dohm forum. Positive and significant participation on the forum counts for participation

Combined, attention / participation is worth 12% of your final grade.

The breakdown of assignments are as follows

<b>500 Points...</b>	
Exam 1	130
Exam 2	130
Exam 3	130
Worksheets (weekly)	0
Quizzes (5, each worth 10 pts)	50
Attendance/Participation	60

A total of 500 points are possible.

<b>Grading system</b> .....	
≥ 90%	A
80 - 89%	B
70 - 79%	C
50 - 69%	D
≤ 49%	F

**University Policy, Reminders, and notices:**

1. We meet only once per week and there are only 11 meetings. Each time we meet, there will be lots to do, lots to learn. Therefore, any unexcused absence will result in a 10% reduction in your grade.
2. Class begins each time exactly at 5:30PM – please be on time. Because many of us will be commuting and this is the busiest time of the day on the road, we will define tardiness as Two or more tardies will be viewed as absence from class (see notice 1).
3. If you miss or are tardy for class, please note that we will proceed without you and you will miss material; it is your responsibility to obtain missed lecture topics from your classmates who attended.
4. Please do not get into the habit of asking, “How long are we going to be here today?” Class ends each time at 9:40PM; or 4 hours, 10 minutes of class. Most days, we will need all of this time, but of course we will take breaks each hour to give you (and me) time to walk about and stretch. There will also be things to do in addition to lecture, so the time should move pretty quickly.
5. You are expected to attend class and to come prepared: read your text before the material is to be presented in class; ask questions if you are unsure of material. I will suggest problems or questions from each chapter in your text and from the publisher's website for you to consider; these will not be graded, nor are they required. However, the more you do, the more practice and exposure you get to the material, the better you will do on the quizzes and exams. The exams are based on the same concepts or problems that the text questions address.
6. Please show respect to your fellow classmates: turn off cell phones and other electronic devices. You may not use electronic devices during exams to block "background noise" during testing. This would be considered a special accommodation and must be vetted through the ADA process (see notice 10).
7. You may bring something to drink, but no food will be permitted during lectures. Use common sense and let's keep the lecture room clean.
8. No make up exam or quiz will be granted in the event of an unexcused absence and the student will be assigned zero for that assignment. In the event of an emergency or an illness, a Doctor's note will be expected and accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.
9. You are also expected to have read and to abide by the “Student Rules of Conduct” which are available in your copy of Chaminade University's Student Handbook. See also the PACE website for more information.
10. Regarding ADA accommodations for extra time on exams and quizzes; Please be aware that I can only accommodate your requests if you have a documented ADA agreement with Chaminade University on file at the Counseling Center. If you need to seek such accommodations, please contact Dr. June Yasuhara at 725-4845 or by e-mail at [jyasuhar@chaminade.edu](mailto:jyasuhar@chaminade.edu) as soon as possible.

Tentative BI110 lecture and exam schedule, subject to change by instructor

Check before you come to class each week for any changes; Exam dates will not be changed.

Week	Thursday	Topics	Readings
1	Jan 14	Course & Subject Introduction Environmental Problems: An Overview	Chapter 1 Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
2	Jan 21	Ecology & Ecosystems Evolution & Biodiversity <b>Quiz 1</b>	Chapter 2 & 3, Spooner (2012) Part II Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
3	Jan 28	Climate & weather <b>Quiz 2</b> Review	Part II Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
4	Feb 4	<b>Exam 1</b> Sustaining Biodiversity	Part III Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
5	Feb 11	Human population growth Soil & Agriculture <b>Quiz 3</b>	Part III Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
6	Feb 18	Water Resources & Pollution Mineral Resources Review	Part III Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
7	Feb 25	<b>Exam 2</b> Energy, Environmental hazards	Part III Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
8	Mar 3	Energy, Environmental hazards Air pollution Solid & Hazardous Waste <b>Quiz 4</b>	Part IV Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
9	Mar 10	Environmental Economics, Politics, & worldviews <b>Quiz 5</b>	Part IV & V Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
10	Mar 17	Environmental Economics, Politics, & worldviews <b>Review</b>	Part IV & V Spooner (2012) plus readings from instructor
11	Mar 24	<b>Exam 3</b>	