

Course: BI 110 People and Nature - LECTURE - Credit: 3.0  
 Time: 5:30 - 7:35 p.m. - Mondays & Wednesdays  
 Instructor: Shirley Black Gerum, B -A., Botany; MPH, Environmental Health  
 e-mail: [Gerum@hawaii.edu](mailto:Gerum@hawaii.edu) Mail: P.O. Box 18: Haleiwa, HI 96712  
 Office Hours: Immediately after each lab class; other times by appointment  
 Text: *Environmental Science: Working with the Earth*, 6th ed. (1997), G. Tyler Miller, Jr.

**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an overview of environmental systems, issues, and concepts. Human concerns about environmental practices that support life on Earth will be emphasized. Since there are many angles to be considered, inquiry-based assignments will keep us current. Respect for all opinions will make our discussions and mock debates richer. As events and speakers become available, we will accommodate these opportunities-and accept invitations to community meetings, etc. where today's decisions are being made for our future. We will take a sobering look at environmental realities, but keep our focus on restoration, recycling, remediation, conservation, maintaining environmental health locally and globally. Let's remain positive and solution-oriented. Environmental issues in the news facing our island, state, Pacific region, nation and planet will provide many of our lessons, so be prepared to scan the media and bring in relevant articles, news clips.

**II. CLASS OBJECTIVE:** While we will ponder the philosophical, we will also learn practical skills for tracing/containing outbreaks, weighing risks/benefits. We will get up to speed with the names and issues (as we know them today) and explore why there are no easy answers. In order to adequately weigh all possibilities, a good grounding in current environmental concepts and vocabulary is critical. Since we cannot even begin to guess where the next advances will be, we will explore ways to sniff out fraudulent scientific reports and evaluate news sources for bias and persuasion. This field will be changing daily-and with each advance, so will everything in our society. Critical thinking skills will be sharpened as daily events demand that we weigh moral and ethical considerations. Our objective is to remain objective!

**III. CLASS FORMAT:** Class lectures & assignments will be structured to provide students with the basis for further explorations and applications of environmental concerns. An epidemiological section will be included. Life experiences will be incorporated whenever applicable. Is there an environmental issue you would like to explore for your major, current job, community, future career? Since we live in such exciting times of discovery, news clippings/photocopies you bring in from newspapers, journals, trade publications about environmental issues and solutions will constitute a portion of your required assignments. Let's seek out novel Uses of plants, bacteria, algae, wetlands, recycling, technology, etc. to clean up environmental pollutants.

	10 Assignments or Exams * (25 points each) .....	250
IV. REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:	3 Environmental News/Journal Articles to Share ....	15
	Attendance/Sportsmanship/Participation .....	15
		280

**V. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**(1)Attendance/Participation/Sportsmanship(APS): Attendance, participation and sportsmanship are vital to maintaining interactive excellence. Attendance: Students with the highest grades are often those who have participated in hands-on activities/materials, discussions, are present for demonstrations, special speakers, and ANs. The pace of an accelerated class does not allow time to repeat material missed due to absence or late arrival. Participation: The input of class members is one of the most valuable components of a university-level class. Your questions, comments open doors. To emphasize the importance of participation, support for those presenting ideas to the class and to underscore zero tolerance for unwelcome remarks regarding ethnicity, lifestyle, gender, 15 points of the total grade will be based on APS. Good Sportsmanship goes a long way in any field: yielding to those who are speaking, withholding negative comments and judgments. A science class is a good place to polish up skills in polite scholarly debate to support or challenge existing theories, society standards.

"In the end, we will conserve only what we love, we will love only *what* we *understand* and we will understand only what we are taught." Baba Dioum, Senegal

(2) **Academic Honesty:** Chaminade University policies regarding academic honesty are clear. (See CUH Undergraduate Catalog) **Plagiarism** is the offering of work of another as one's own, and may include, but is not limited to: (a) Complete or partial copying direct from a written published or unpublished source without proper acknowledgment to author. (Minor changes in wording or syntax without acknowledgment to the author is NOT sufficient to avoid plagiarism charges.). (b) Paraphrasing the work of another without proper author acknowledgment. (c) Submitting as one's own original work (however freely given or purchased) the original exam, research paper, manuscript, report, computer file, internet information or other assignment that has been prepared by another individual. **Cheating:** No student may give or receive help from another or use notes during exams. No student may hand in or cause to be handed in another student's work as his/her work. The copying of another's assignment(s) is also forbidden and will result in an "F" for that assignment-for the one copying and the one allowing his/her work to be copied. Failure to adhere to these standards may result in the receipt of the grade "F" for the assignment and/or an "F" for the course. This remains subject to student's right of appeal and/or referral. The usual penalty for academic dishonesty is failure in the course for the 1st offense and disciplinary action, not to exclude suspension or expulsion from the university, for the 2nd.

(3) **Missed Quizzes/Exams:** Out of respect to students who come prepared to take quizzes/exams in spite of obstacles/illnesses, students who miss a quiz or exam will not be given the opportunity for a makeup exam. Exceptions will be made for students with documented duty or medical absences (note from clinic or supervisor), prepared to take test upon return. You must leave a message for me at SB CUH office (624-3515) re absence on day of exam. It is the student's responsibility to keep informed of assignments, quizzes. Please check with other students if you miss class. "Not knowing" of a quiz will not excuse any student from taking any announced quiz/exam on announced date.

**Course:** BI 110 - People and Nature (LAB) - Credit: 1.0

**Time:** 7:35 - 9:55 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays (and Wed 5:30-8:00 p.m. daylight hours)

**Note:** Earth Day is April 22. Let's make a difference!

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION and CLASS FORMAT:**

This lab class will provide us with applied hands-on environmental experiences, many using the unique Hawaiian environment. To take advantage of daylight to observe all we can in our Schofield environment, lab time may be at the beginning, middle, or end of our class time. (Pack comfortable shoes on class days.) Some lab assignments will be given for you to observe with your families on outings since science is to be shared.

#### **CLASS OBJECTIVE:**

The true objective of this class is to provide each student with such reverence and awe for all life forms that respect will follow. We will sharpen our observance skills, jump-start our awareness and expose ourselves to opportunities that will prompt questions. All of science is observance and questioning, documentation. In this course, we will learn the importance of adding risk/benefit analysis to our questioning process as there are no easy answers.

#### **REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:**

Ten assignments worth 15 points each will be given (total 150 points). The Eco-Hero Project will give you credit for 2 labs (30 pts each) for applying your environmental skills within the community. You may want to be thinking about/researching a worthwhile project. (135-150 = A, 120-134 = B, 105-119 = C, 90-104 = D, below 90 pts = F). (To visualize the percentage points of individual exams/assignments, simply divide your score by the number of points possible for that exam, quiz, or assignment. Example:  $13.5/15 = 90\%$  or A)

*"The world we have made as a result of the level of thinking we have done thus far creates problems we cannot solve at the same level at which we created them." Albert Einstein*