1. COURSE INFORMATION

Classes held: Lectures - Sunday, Tuesday; 9:30 AM – 10:50 AM
Credits: 4
Prerequisite: None; Environmental Sciences Major

2. FACULTY INFORMATION

Faculty Name: Mukesh Gupta, PhD; Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences
Email: mukesh.gupta@auw.edu.bd
Office Location: H603
Office Hours: Sunday and Tuesday, 2:00 – 3:00 PM | other times by appointment only
Qualifications: PhD in Environmental Sciences & Policy
Areas of Expertise: Environmental Sciences and Policy, Climate Change & Energy for Development, Low Carbon Growth Analysis

3. TEXT AND OTHER COURSE MATERIALS


4. COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

Course overview:

This course is an interdisciplinary introduction to Environmental Sciences as a discipline and as a way of thinking. The course aims at introducing students to the main concepts, issue areas, and cross-cutting disciplines associated with environmental sciences/studies. The subject of this course is the nexus between communities and sustainability, a primary tenet of environmental sciences. Dwelling on different aspects of environmental sciences, we will explore its meanings from application on various real world settings.

This course covers environmental challenges and their relations to environmental sustainability. Environmental challenges related to pollution, water resources, energy, global warming & climate change, population and land degradation will be examined under this course. The course is also aimed at showing why it is essential to understand, quantify and embed the environmental dimension at every stage of consideration of agricultural, industrial and economic activity. Further, this course attempts to provide a framework to help understand the dynamic nature of Environmental Sciences and the breadth of information available to help create a strong environmental literacy or awareness.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Method of Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The course seeks to help students to obtain:</td>
<td>Writing assignments, Quiz, case-based assignment, group work, and class performance assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. A good general knowledge about environmental sciences and how it is useful/important in society,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Acquire the necessary problem-solving skills that would enable students to</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
obtain and propose alternatives to a variety of environmental problems,
3. Acquire and apply scientific knowledge about environmental issues so as to understand the underlying scientific concepts

5. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENT & GRADING POLICY

Attendance: AUW expects 100% punctual class attendance. Attendances are mandatory. Attendance will be taken and unexcused absences will be subject to academic actions. For learning more details on AUW ‘Attendance Policy’ please consult Academic Bulletin 2017-18 (http://asian-university.org/academic-programs/academic-calendar-bulletin/).

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Quizzes/ in-class writing/Tests</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100-96.68%</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>73.33-76.67%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Orientation tour report/Article summaries</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>96.67-93.33%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>70.00-73.32%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Mid-term exam</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>93.32-90%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>66.68-69.99%</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Final exam</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>86.68-89.99%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>63.33-66.67%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>83.33-86.67%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>60.00-63.32%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-total</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>80.00-83.32%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>59.99% or</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>76.68-79.99%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>below</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Distributions of marks are approximations and subject to change based on academic activities performed*

6. INSTRUCTIONS ON WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

We will have two sessions per week. The sessions are designed as seminar and lectures where we may discuss the assigned readings. Active participation is encouraged and expected. To facilitate seminar discussion you will have to write short (about one page long) summaries/reaction of the assigned readings as well as questions and comments for discussion. The quality of the summaries/reaction you write is essential for successful completion of the course. They should be well organized, concise, state the main point(s) of the author(s) and show that you have carefully read and reflected upon the texts.

Quizzes and class tests during the class time will count towards your final grade. Participation will be rewarded with points. Tests will include multiple choice, short answer questions, and essay questions. Particular instructions for specific exams, if any, will be provided as necessary. The course may include an orientation tour to an industry/polluted area and the preparation of a report of the visited area will be required in that instance. There will be a mid-term exam which will be due by TBD. The course ends with a final exam which will be due by TBD.

7. CONTACT WITH YOUR PROFESSOR

Preferred method of communication: face to face talk during office hours. Therefore, you are strongly encouraged to discuss any topic on this course during office hour declared by the course instructors or other time by appointment. However, if you are in critical need of communication after office hours you may email your instructor accepting some delay in response.
8. COURSE CONTENTS

| The multidisciplinary nature of environmental sciences; Natural Resources: Renewable and non-renewable resources; Environmental Problems, Their Causes, and Sustainability; The Environment and Human Population Growth; The structure and function of ecosystems; aspects of biodiversity and its conservation | Sustainable Energy and the Environment; Resource Consumption; Climate change science and impacts; Climate and development nexus; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Environmental hazards; Biogeochemical cycles; Environmental economics; Environmental Health, Pollution, and Toxicology; Water Supply, Use, and Management; Urban environments; Our environmental future |

**Making-up exams:** Students should not miss any exams or deadline for any assignments. However, you will be allowed to make-up a test (or assignment/report submission) within a week of the missed exam if your absence is designable as ‘Excused Absence’ according to AUW policy. **Quizzes are unannounced** and there are no makeovers for these.

9. PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All members of the AUW Community are bound by the Academic Honor Code published in the Academic Bulletin (http://www.auw.edu.bd/academics/course-bulletin/).

The integrity of students’ academic work is very important to AUW faculty. Universities are based upon the fundamental principle that the work presented truly belongs to the author, because the academic community revolves around ideas and creativity. Each person’s ideas are his or her contribution to the academic community. Therefore, taking another person’s ideas and representing them as one’s own is a serious form of dishonesty. Similarly, cheating (copying someone else’s work, asking for answers, sharing answers, etc.) and other forms of dishonesty (falsifying data, making up references, etc.) are also serious breaches of this honor code.

Plagiarism is intentionally or unintentionally taking credit for another’s words or ideas. You may not plagiarize in your academic work, and you must adhere to the following:

- When you use someone else’s words (whether they are from a distinguished author or a classmate’s paper), place the words you have copied in quotation marks and provide the appropriate citation of author and source. A good guideline to use to avoid plagiarism is to make sure quotes of three or more sequential words from someone else are put into quotation marks.
- If you paraphrase (reword) another person’s ideas, then you must also cite the source. Paraphrasing must involve changing the words and sentence structure of the original source.
- Cite materials you copy or paraphrase from the Internet, even if the author is not identified.

The various academic disciplines (humanities, social sciences, sciences) use slightly different formats for footnotes, endnotes, and bibliographies. Your professor for a particular class will tell you which format he or she wants you to use in that class.

Copying, asking for answers, sharing answers, and any other form of cheating (misrepresenting your own work and knowledge) on exams or quizzes are all forms of academic dishonesty.

**Other Forms of Academic Dishonesty**

1. Making up references, quoting wrong sources, etc.
2. Falsifying data.
3. Misrepresenting your situation to be excused from academic work.
4. Submitting the same paper in more than one class.
5. Informing a student in a later class about questions on tests or quizzes.
6. Misrepresenting your academic work or qualifications in any way.

Full details about plagiarism, academic dishonesty and penalties are available in the Academic Honor Code in the Academic Bulletin.
10. STRATEGIES TO PREVENT PLAGIARISM & VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

For any academic writing, students are advised to check for plagiarism before submission using free online plagiarism checker (e.g. http://smallseotools.com/plagiarism-checker/).

Use of any electronic device is not allowed in the class (lectures, exams). Please switch off your cellphone while you are in the class. If your cellphone (or any other electronic device) is switched on during any exam it will be considered as academic dishonesty and will be punished as per university policy.

11. CLASS BEHAVIOUR

Please be on time. You will not get class attendance and not be allowed to attend quiz/class test if you are late.

12. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Course moodle link: http://103.98.135.8/moodle/course/view.php?id=572